



Department of Natural Resources  
Public Land Management Strategy  
**Appendices**



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## **PUBLIC LAND MAPS BY REGION**

## **APPENDIX ONE – INTRODUCTION/HISTORY**

### **Introduction**

From its earliest days, Michigan's inhabitants used natural resources to sustain themselves. Early Indians hunted and fished, and they used copper to fashion tools and ornaments. European exploration of Michigan brought fur traders who trapped animals and transported their pelts on Michigan's rivers and Great Lakes to market. Early settlers were attracted to Michigan for agricultural pursuits, and the population in the southern half the Lower Peninsula exploded after the War of 1812. By 1850, 85 percent of the state's population was dependent on agriculture to make a living. Less than two decades later, Michigan's vast pine forests were exploited and the state became the major timber producer in the United States. People were also attracted to the state's rich mineral deposits and were soon mining iron, copper and salt.

Since Michigan's statehood, land has been set aside for public use and services. That practice continues today, with more than 4.5 million acres of land owned by the people of Michigan and managed by the Department of Natural Resources.

Under Public Act 240 of 2012, the Department is charged with creating a strategic plan for land acquisition and disposal. This collection of documents shows the entire portfolio of how public land is currently acquired, sold and used in Michigan. While many citizens may be aware of the longtime uses of state land – timber production, mineral extraction, oil and gas exploration, hunting, trapping, fishing and camping – there are many other ancillary activities on state land that run the gamut of acceptable use. All these uses of state land help drive Michigan's economy and provide jobs and economic activity in many communities.

The documents in this report summarize economic activity involving state land, show examples of how state land was sold to aid major economic activity by Michigan businesses, and summarize previous land management reports. The purpose of these documents is to help guide the work of this advisory group as it helps the Department draft a strategic plan for future public land acquisition and disposal. That plan will be presented to the state legislative committees for natural resources and outdoor recreation, as well as their corresponding Appropriations subcommittees. It will also be posted on the DNR's website as the Department's principles for land acquisition, disposal and management.

Moving forward, the state needs a comprehensive strategic plan for public land acquisition and disposal. Michigan's public lands and the natural resources they house have always played a key role in the economic growth and prosperity of the state. While it has long been the state's practice to continually consolidate its ownership of land, a more strategic approach is needed to ensure wise conservation and management of the land to ensure its future as a force to strengthen the economy. Diverse use of state land must also continue to be managed to ensure the viability of natural resources as a source of economic growth in the state. Access to public land also must be maximized to ensure that it continues to remain an influence in the health and livelihoods of Michigan citizens.

### **History of Michigan's Land**

From the beginning of statehood, the State of Michigan has been in the real estate business and the owner of substantial acres of land. State policy shaped by public opinion determined how Michigan's public lands were viewed and how much land was retained in state ownership. The current DNR managed state land holdings - state parks and recreation areas, game and wildlife areas and state forests -- were acquired through a deliberative

process that reflected state policy and public opinion at the time. Early state policy supported the sale of publicly held land for settlement and development, changed to support the sale of land for exploitation, and then evolved to a policy of owning and managing public lands for public benefits.

When Michigan was admitted to the Union in 1837, the federal government granted land to the state which was sold to help raise revenues for government operations, build roads and provide public services (6 million acres) and build schools and universities (1,357,000 acres). In addition, the federal government granted land to the state to sell to individuals for the construction of highways, railroads, canals and bridges. For example, 750,000 acres was granted from the federal government to the state and transferred to individuals to pay for the construction of the St. Mary's ship canal and 250,000 acres for military wagon roads. Through these grants, 12 million acres passed from the federal government to the state.

To process this land, the State Land Office was established in 1843, charged with the responsibility of moving land as quickly as possible into private ownership to encourage settlement of the state. By 1890, all but 500,000 acres of government-owned lands were sold to private owners. Much of the land was sold because of its natural resource values; timber, minerals or for waterways.

The forested landscape of northern Michigan drew entrepreneurs who recognized the value of the forest to build the great cities, towns, and roads required by the rapidly growing nation. The lands were quickly acquired from the state and almost as quickly harvested and the timber was shipped to Chicago and other growing areas of the country. In 40 short years, the timber was gone and by 1870s the cut-over lands were being promoted and sold for agriculture purposes in attempt to lure immigrants from around the world to settle in Michigan. Poor soils, distance

from markets, topography, and short growing seasons caused much of the farms to fail and the lands to go tax delinquent. The state policy at that time was to resell as fast as possible.

From the 1890s through the 1930s, the state underwent a series of economic downturns which caused lands to return to the state for non-payment of taxes -- over 116 million acres over a 22-year period. Public Act 206 of 1893, known as the General Property Tax Law, recognized the absolute taxing power of the state and provided for equal assessments and foreclosure on tax delinquent property with all taxing units sharing in any taxes lost on sale proceeds on land sold. Under this law, title on foreclosed property became absolute in the state and a new chain of title was created. By 1913, over two million acres of these lands had been turned over to the state and 1.8 million acres were transferred to private ownership through homesteading and sales. Whatever timber was remaining was harvested, and the land was again allowed to go tax delinquent. Other northern Michigan lands were purchased for farming, and because of poor soils were unsuccessful and were also allowed to go tax delinquent.

In an effort to stop this cycle of tax delinquencies, the legislature created a Forestry Commission in 1899 and began to set aside forest reserves. Further expansion of the state forests occurred with the creation of the Public Domain Commission in 1909. The creation of the Public Domain Commission was sparked by the gigantic forest fire in 1908 that burned across the state, burning more than 2.3 million acres of forest "slash" (the remnants left from logging) and costing the lives of 25 people. In 1911, the legislature provided the state with the authority to exchange lands to consolidate ownership, and in 1909 legislative action required the state to reserve the mineral rights on all lands sold or homesteaded.

In the early 1920s, the emerging state park system benefitted from the gifts of land to establish individual state parks, including D. H Day in Leelanau county (now part of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore), Hoeft State Park in Presque Isle County, Mears State Park in Oceana County, Wells State Park in Menominee County and 10 sites in Livingston, Monroe and Oakland counties donated by the Dodge Brothers Automobile company and four sites in Oakland County donated by Howard Bloomer.

The exploitation of land and resources triggered the rise of the conservation movement, and state policy then changed to a focus on wise allocation of land, rather than sale for short-term exploitation. Various commissions including the Forestry (1899), Public Lands and Fishery (1873), and Parks (1919) Commissions were created to manage resources and to stop exploitation to the point of extermination. The commissions were eliminated with the creation of the Department of Conservation in 1921.

In 1922, the Michigan Land Economic Survey was created to survey the lands in northern Michigan to determine their value for agriculture or more suitable for recreation or other public uses. The USDA (Land Use Planning Program) also had a land planning effort which lasted until the 1950. This planning effort was also intended to stop the exploitation/tax delinquency cycle.

In the late 1920s and early 1930s, the federal government began a major resettlement effort purchasing marginal farmland and resettling occupants on more productive lands. The marginal lands were set aside for state or national forests. The Civilian Conservation Corp was then used to reforest much of these lands. Under this program, "Recreation Demonstration Areas" were created at Waterloo and Yankee Springs which were later transferred to the state and became Waterloo and Yankee Springs Recreation Areas.

The economic depression of the 1930 saw another major round of tax delinquencies. In 1933, up to 80 percent of the taxable property in Michigan was delinquent for at least one year. In an effort to assist ailing local units of government, the state purchased large amounts of tax delinquent lands, and paid off local assessments. By 1937, 80 percent of the taxable land in Michigan was delinquent for three or more years. The land was offered for sale, and if not sold or the taxes paid prior to November 29, 1930, it became the property of the state. Through this process, the state took title to 2.2 million acres of land and a million subdivided parcels.

Land Use Planning Committees were organized for each county in the state comprised of some 1,700 local, county, township and school officials. In the 47 counties of northern Michigan, the Department of Conservation requested that the committees review all state land holdings including those that had recently become property of the state due to tax delinquency and make recommendations as to their future as:

- State lands for recreation or forest purposes
- Locally controlled lands by counties, townships or schools
- Private property.

As a result of this review, by 1950, over 1.3 million acres were offered for sale and sold and 130,000 acres were turned over to private ownership. The remaining acres were added to the state forest, wildlife areas or state park systems. Between 1950 and 1980, 62,000 additional acres of land reverted to the state and 200,000 acres of tax reverted lands were disposed of through sale, exchange or redemption.

In the 1940s the legislature recognized that the southern one-third of the state needed additional access to recreation and hunting lands and recreation facilities to attract tourists to the state. Several bond issues were passed, providing the resources to acquire marginal farmlands turning them into

state parks and wildlife areas. In 1944, \$3 million was appropriated to acquire recreation areas in southeast Michigan and \$1 million to acquire the Porcupine Mountains.

The Natural Resources Trust Fund was established by the legislature in 1976, heralded for the visionary purpose of the fund -- to replace the loss of one non-renewable resource (oil and gas) with another non-renewable resource (land). The Natural Resources Trust Fund was placed in the Constitution through a ballot proposal in 1984. The program specifies that royalties derived from the sale and lease of mineral rights owned by the state should be used for the acquisition, development or conservation of lands.

In 1984 and 1996, there were two extensive studies conducted on Michigan's public land policy. The Report of The Task Force on Public Lands Policy was presented to Governor James Blanchard in 1984 and provided a series of 24 recommendations regarding the state's public land policy. The primary point of this report is that the state needed to block in its ownership of land and "did not find a need for major changes to land management practices and philosophies."

In 1996, the Senate Select Committee on Public Land Ownership, Purchase and Management also did an extensive study of the DNR's land acquisition policy as well as other state land-holding agencies. The select committee proposed seven "principle changes" in the state's land acquisition policy including improving outreach, greater flexibility in state programs to allow for shifts in land policy, regular review of Department's mission statements as they relate to land policy, adopt new attitudes and incentives to work with the private sector; legislature should reaffirm its role as the chief conservator of the state's natural assets, and better coordination of all state agencies land management practices.

## **DNR Land Ownership Strategy**

In response to Natural Resources Commission Policy 2627 of 2003 regarding DNR land holdings, the DNR initiated a thorough review of State land ownership. This project, known as the DNR Land Ownership Strategy, implemented a four-phase strategy to not only review the current DNR land ownership pattern, but to also evaluate those lands from a natural resources perspective and dispose of those parcels that did not contribute to the overall mission of the DNR. The purpose of the Land Ownership Strategy was to continue the on-going effort to consolidate State land ownership for a variety of outdoor recreation, natural resource benefits and land management efficiencies by reducing trespass issues, safety zone encroachments and the need to monitor and survey public/private boundary lines.

The DNR Land Ownership Strategy consisted of four phases:

### ***Phase 1 – Boundaries Action Strategy***

DNR staff completed a thorough review of all existing management boundaries for state forests, state game areas, state wildlife areas, state recreation areas, and state parks. Updated management boundary recommendations were posted for public comment and submitted to the DNR Director for review and approval and were adopted in May 2004.

### ***Phase 2 – Strategy to Identify Nonessential State Lands***

Thorough review on a county-by-county basis of all DNR-managed lands lying outside of the newly dedicated management boundaries was completed. Lands were reviewed for natural resource values, recreational opportunities, unique resource protection, public access, water frontage, historic or cultural significance, timber value and appropriate ownership. Parcels were placed into three categories: Retain, Offer to Unit of Government or Alternate Conservation Owner, and Dispose. For all 83 counties,

public meetings were held in each county or groups of counties. Public comments were incorporated into the recommendations that were submitted to the DNR Director for review and approval. Final evaluation of parcels in all 83 counties was completed in April 2008.

### ***Phase 3 – Strategy for Disposal of Identified Lands***

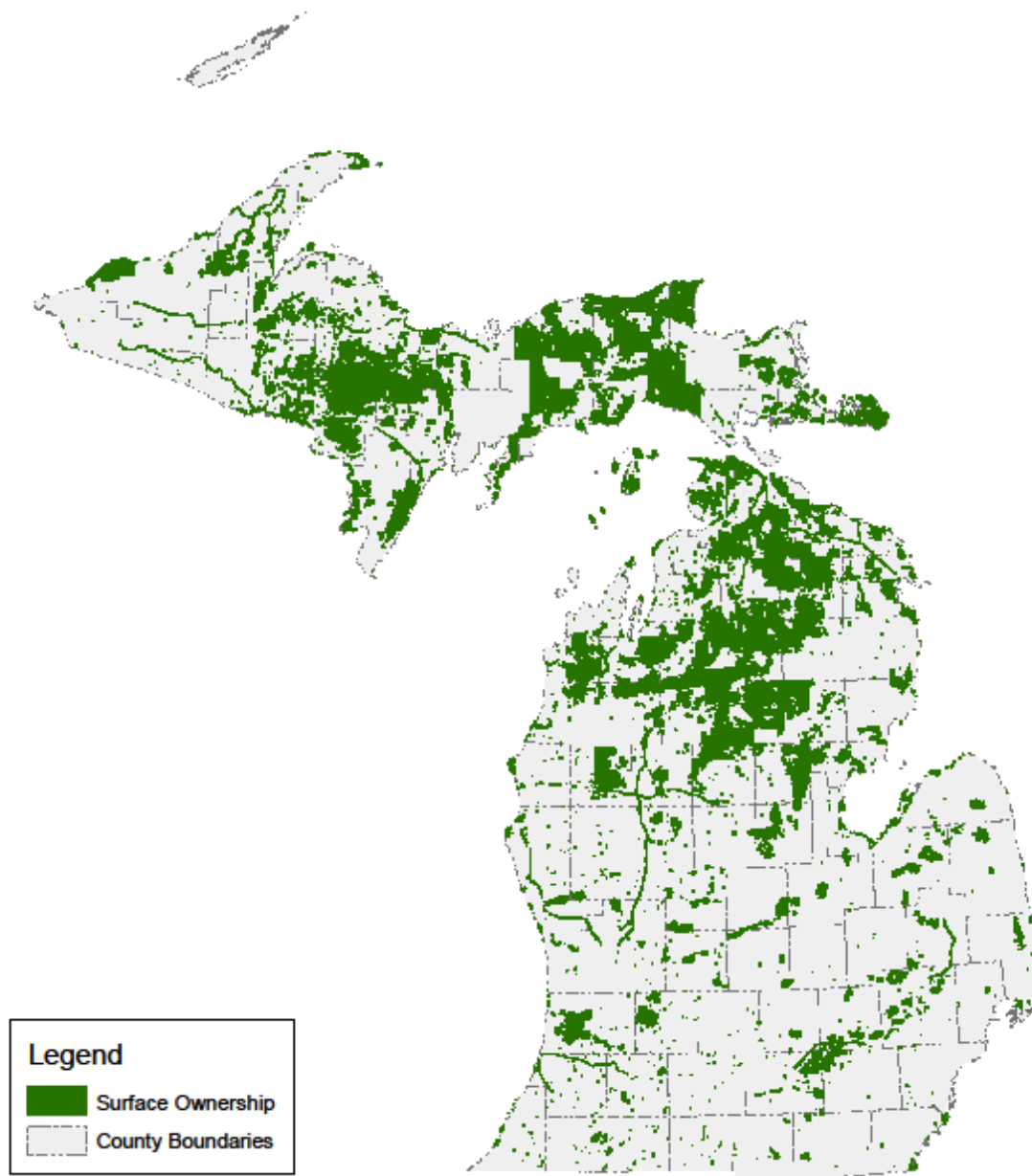
Lands identified and approved for disposal, either to a unit of government or alternate conservation owner, or to the general public, have been made available for purchase or exchange. This land disposal effort is currently ongoing.

### ***Phase 4 – Strategy to Maintain an Up-to-Date Public Land Base***

In conjunction with its conservation partners and other land managing agencies, the DNR will implement a thorough review of the lands administered by the DNR at least once each decade. In response to ongoing interest in DNR land ownership, this process is also continuing at an accelerated schedule.

As a result of Phase 2 of the Land Ownership Strategy, a total of 9,831 parcels were evaluated. Of that total, 5,291 surplus parcels were approved for sale or exchange.

# PUBLIC LANDS MANAGED BY THE DNR

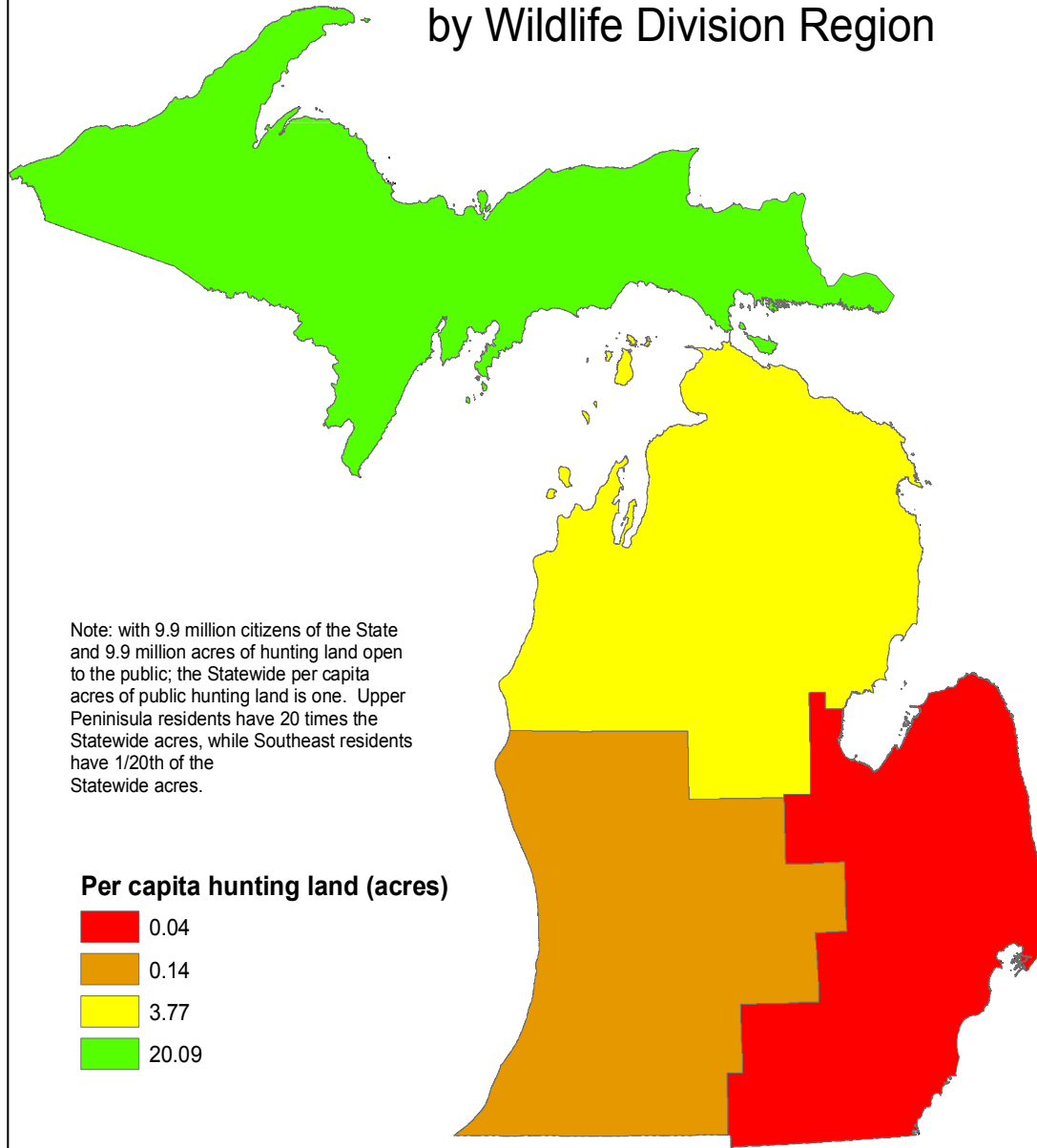


Created: 7/18/2012



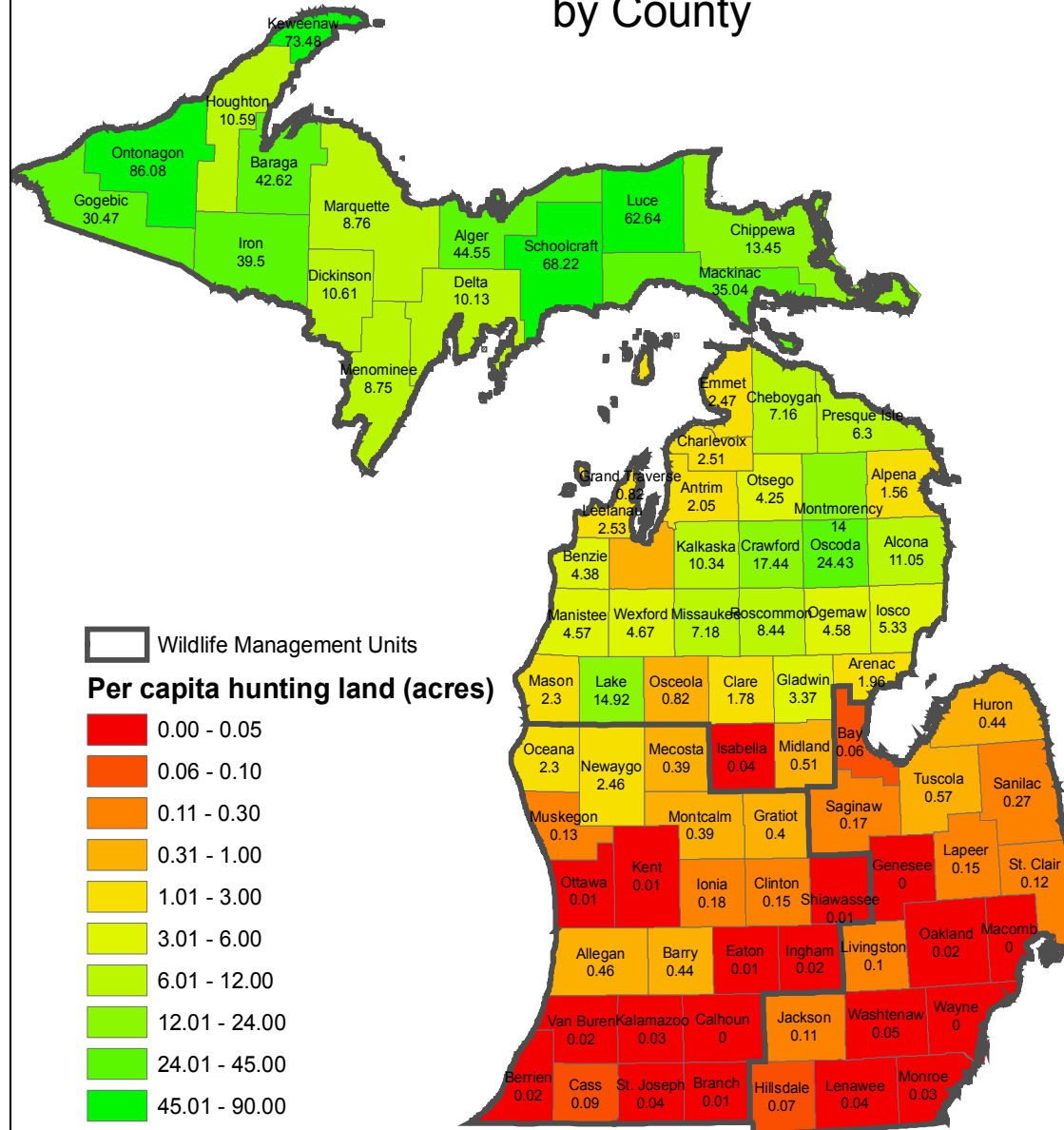


## Per capita Public Hunting Land by Wildlife Division Region



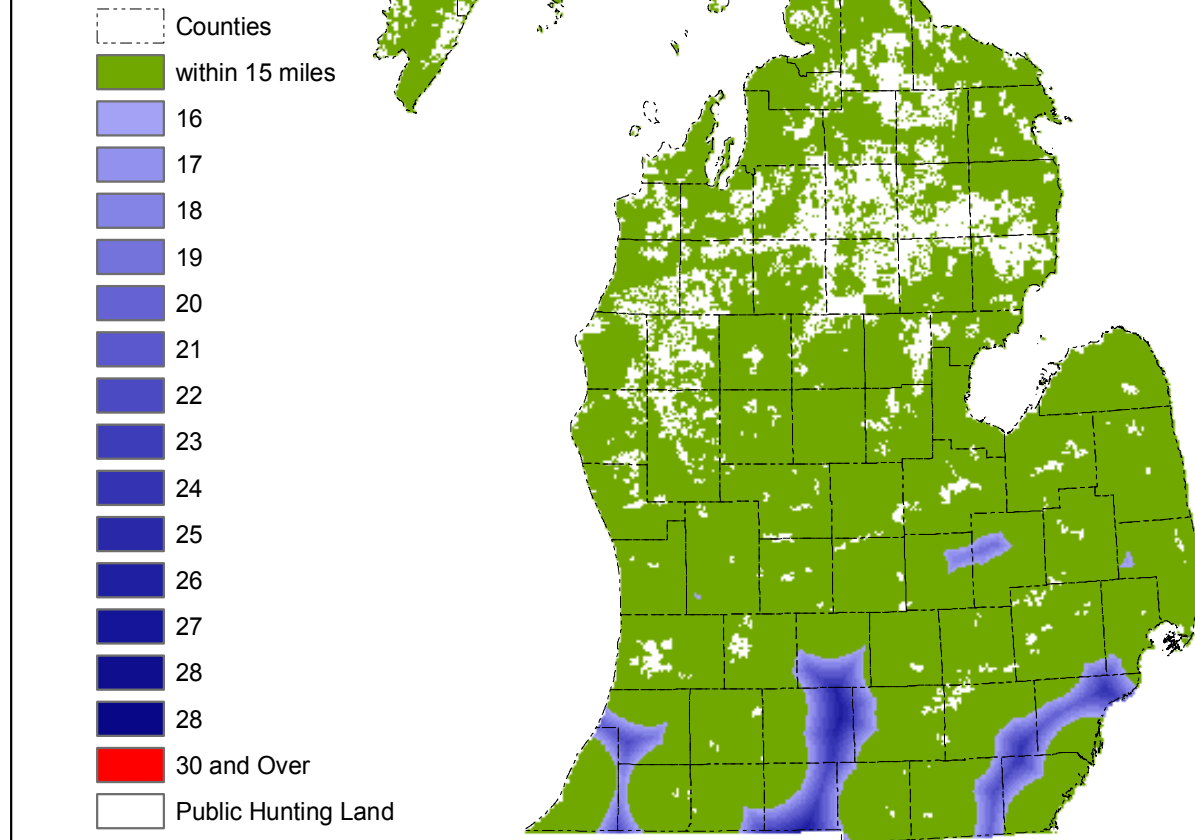
Includes all public hunting lands found in Mi-HUNT except HAP lands since HAP contracts are not long term. Acres of hunting land in each county is divided by the 2010 population from the U.S. Census Bureau.

## Per capita Public Hunting Land by County



Includes all public hunting lands found in Mi-HUNT except HAP lands since HAP contracts are not long term.  
Acres of hunting land in each county is divided by the 2010 population from the U.S. Census Bureau.

## Distance to Public Hunting Land



All public hunting lands included in Mi-HUNT except HAP lands since HAP contracts are not long term. Public hunting blocks of less than 500 acres are not included in the analysis. Distance is straight line distance, not travel distance by road.

# Targeted Workers by Census Block Groups

May 7, 2013  
Resource Assessment Unit  
Forest Resources Division  
Department of Natural Resources



Targeted workers are workers whose main capital is knowledge. A targeted worker is a person that adds value to an organization by processing existing information to create new information that could be used to define and solve problems

Examples of targeted workers include:

- lawyers
- doctors
- diplomats
- law-makers
- software developers
- managers
- bankers

Targeted workers

- use their intellect to convert ideas into products, services or processes
- are problem solvers rather than production workers
- use intellectual rather than manual skills to earn a living

Core targeted workers are workers with specific knowledge management roles.

Examples of core targeted workers include:

- Chief Information Officers
- Knowledge Managers
- Librarians
- Content Managers
- Information Officers
- Knowledge Analysts

## Legend

### Percent of Work Force

### Defined as Targeted Workers

0 - 9

10 - 18

19 - 25

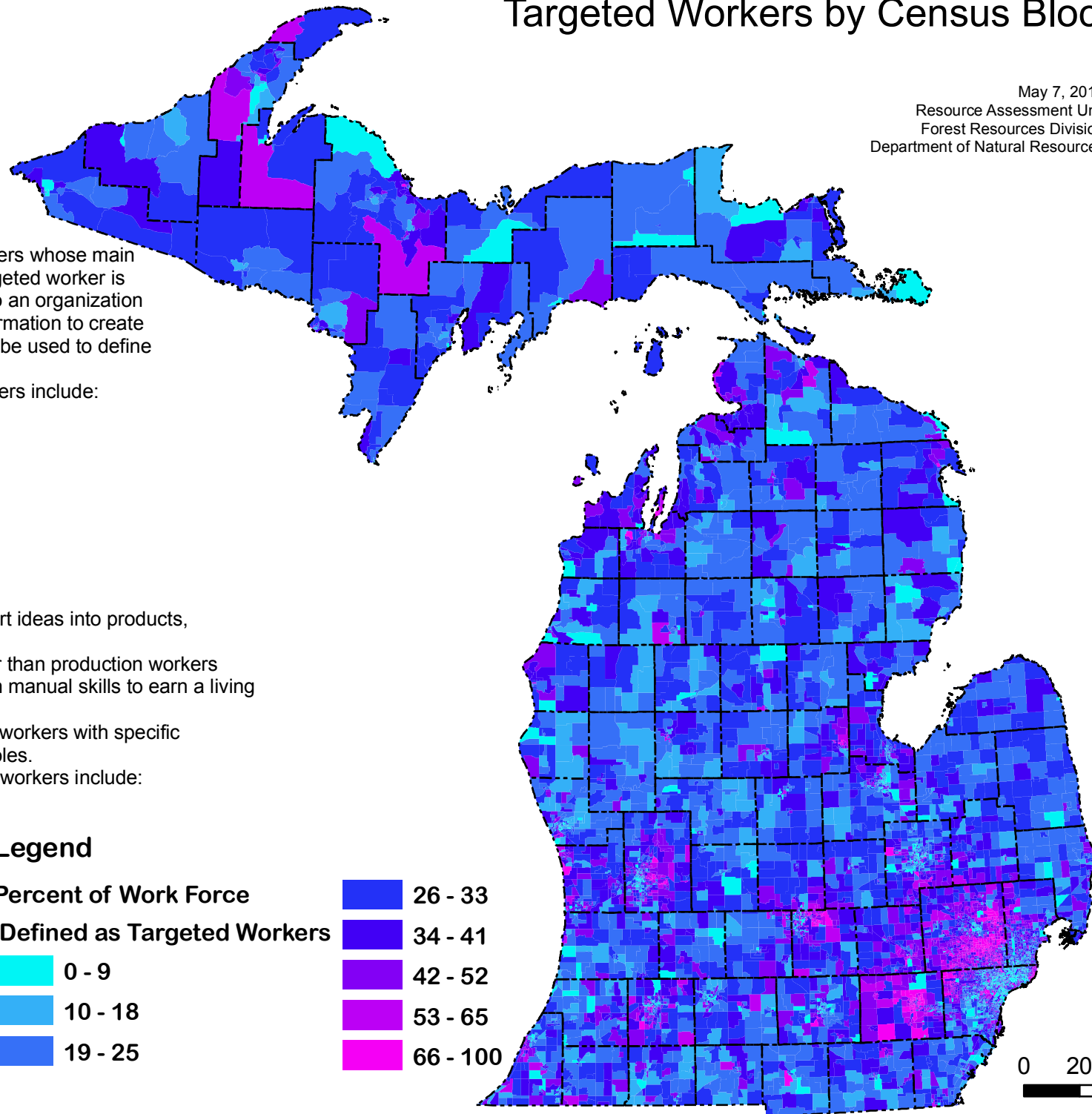
26 - 33

34 - 41

42 - 52

53 - 65

66 - 100

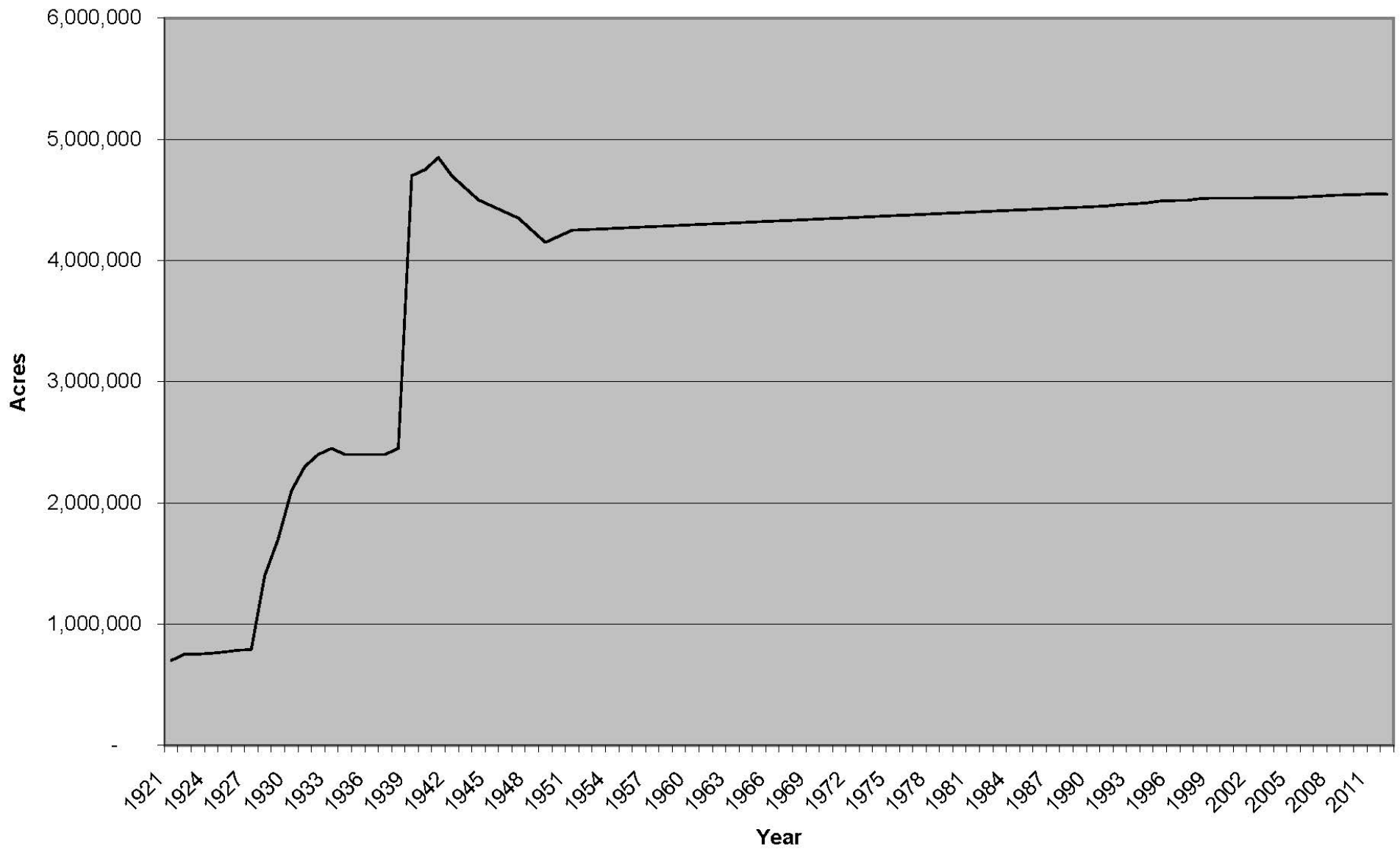


0 20 40 80

Miles



## DNR Managed Public Lands



## LEGAL AUTHORITIES

<b>Constitutional Authorities</b>		<b>Authorities Which Allow The Department To Purchase Lands</b>
<b>Article IV, Section 52</b>	Conservation and development of natural resources of the state are hereby declared to be of paramount public concern...The legislature shall provide for the protection of the...other natural resources of the state from pollution, impairment or destruction.	
<b>Article IX, Section 35</b>	<b>Creates the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund</b>	The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund is available for the acquisition of land and development of recreation facilities. The Local Public Recreation Facility Fund generated from the sale of the Recreation Passport can be used for the development of local recreation facilities, including trails.
<b>Laws</b>		
<b>Public Act (PA) 51 of 1951, Section 10k funds</b>	<b>State Transportation Funds (MTF)</b>	All agencies receiving funds from Act 51 shall spend a minimum of one percent of their MTF when averaged over 10 years on non-motorized transportation facilities and services. This money can be used only for construction and not for operation or maintenance and includes funding for sideways, shared use paths, bike lands, and associated paving marking.

<b>Laws</b>		<b>Authorities Which Allow The Department To Purchase Lands</b>
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Part 5</b>	Gives the DNR authority for contracts for taking and storage of mineral products, drilling operations for taking oil and gas, develop outdoor recreation facilities, remove and dispose of forest products, and guard against pollution, impairment or destruction. Gives power to the DNR over the management, control and disposition of all land under the public domain except those managed by other state agencies. Gives the DNR authority to buy, sell, exchange or condemn lands and other property. Manage lands under the control of the DNR to prevent any net decrease in the acreage of such lands that are open to hunting.	
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Part 19</b>	<b>Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Local Public Recreation Facility Fund</b> – provides that it can be used for the acquisition of land or rights in land for recreational uses or protection of the land because of its environmental importance or scenic beauty or for the development of public recreation facilities.	The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund is available for the acquisition of land and development of recreation facilities. The Local Public Recreation Facility Fund generated from the sale of the Recreation Passport can be used for the development of local recreation facilities, including trails.
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Part 21</b>	DNR may sell sites to school districts and churches and for public purposes to public education institutions and to the US, and to governmental units of the state. DNR may transfer jurisdiction of tax reverted lands for public purposes to any department board or commission of the state without a reverter clause. If there is no reverter clause conveyance or transfers must be at appraised value. Allows for exchanges of land, grant easements, and designate surplus lands. Creates the land facilitation fund where proceeds from the sale of land are deposited for purchase of other lands.	
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Article III, Chapter 1, Part 351</b>	Allows for the designation of wilderness and natural areas and management of those areas.	

<b>Laws</b>		<b>Authorities Which Allow The Department To Purchase Lands</b>
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Part 365</b>	Endangered Species – Provides authority to the DNR to perform acts necessary for the conservation, protection, restoration and propagation of endangered species.	
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Part 405</b>	The State assents to use game and fish license fees for no other purposes other than game and fish activities under administration of the Department.	
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Part 413</b>	Allows the DNR to restore or remediate habitats or species damaged by invasive species or genetically engineered organisms.	
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Part 415</b>	Provides the DNR with the authority to establish shooting and hunting grounds, hunting game preserves,	
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Part 421</b>	Allows the DNR to establish dog training areas or acquire lands for dog training areas.	
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Part 435</b>	<b>Hunting and Fishing License Fees</b> – Allows for the use of game and fish license dollars to purchase, lease and manage lands for the purpose of propagating and rearing of wildlife or fish and for the establishment and maintenance of game refuges, wildlife sanctuaries and public shooting and fishing grounds and to lease lands to provide for hunter access on private lands.	Hunting and fishing license fees may be used for acquisition of land and for management of game species and fisheries resources.
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Subchapter 4, Part 511</b>	The DNR shall establish and maintain commercial forests.	
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Part 525</b>	<b>Harvesting of State Forests</b> – The DNR shall manage the state forest in a manner that is consistent with the principle of sustainable forestry.	Allows for the harvest of timber off state lands and the use of those resources to manage timber resources on state lands.



<b>Laws</b>		<b>Authorities Which Allow The Department To Purchase Lands</b>
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Part 711</b>	<b>Recreation Improvement Fund</b>	Dedicated revenues from state gas tax are used for maintenance and development of recreation trails.
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Part 723</b>	The DNR shall create a state system of trails and may accept gifts and grants in land, rights of ways or other property to establish trails.	
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Part 741</b>	<b>State Parks</b> – The Department shall create, maintain, operate, promote and make available for public use and enjoyment a system of state parks to preserve and protect Michigan’s significant natural resources and areas of scenic beauty or historic significance, to provide open space for public recreation and to provide an opportunity to understand Michigan’s natural resources and the need to protect and manage those resources. Transfer or sale of state park land over 100 acres requires notice to legislature and public hearing.	Revenues received from the sale of Recreation Passport, out-of-state day use passes, camping, and other revenues can be used for the acquisition of land and the development, maintenance and operation of recreational facilities within state parks or facilities where a Recreation Passport is required.
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Part 761</b>	The state reserves the exclusive right and privilege to all aboriginal records and other antiquities including those found on the bottomlands of the Great Lakes.	
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Part 781</b>	<b>Waterways</b> – Provides the power to the DNR to acquire, construct and maintain harbors, channels, and facilities including recreation boating access sites for vessels in the state’s navigable waters.	The revenue from boat registrations and the sale of fuel that is deposited into the Waterways Fund can be used to develop, maintain and operate access sites that could be part of a river trail. The Waterways Fund can also be used for the acquisition of land.

<b>Laws</b>		<b>Authorities Which Allow The Department To Purchase Lands</b>
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Part 811</b>	<b>Off Road Vehicles</b> – Provides the authority to the DNR to acquire land for establishing ORV routes, trails and areas.	Revenues collected from the sale of off road vehicle licenses can be used for signage, maintenance, construction, leasing of lands to provide recreational opportunities for off-road vehicles, law enforcement, environmental damage restoration and safety education of ORV enthusiasts
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Part 821</b>	<b>Snowmobiles</b> – Provides the authority to the DNR to acquire land for establishing snowmobile trails.	Revenues collected from the sale of snowmobile trail permits and snowmobile registrations can be used for signage, maintenance, construction, equipment, law enforcement, and purchasing or lease of land to provide recreational opportunities for snowmobiles.
<b>PA 451 of 1994, Part 831</b>	<b>State Forest Recreation Fund</b> – Requires the Department to develop, operate, maintain and promote an integrated recreation system within the state forest.	The State Forest Recreation Account can be used for the development, operation, maintenance and promotion of state forest recreation activities.
<b>Federal Funds</b>		
<b>23 USC 206</b>	<b>Recreational Trails Program (RTP)</b>	Dedicated revenues from federal gas tax used for maintenance and development of recreation trails. Funds must be distributed to project types to meet an allocation formula identified in the legislation; 30 percent motorized, 30 percent non-motorized, and 40 percent diversified use. Additionally, the program requires an advisory board made up of trail users to meet every fiscal year to provide guidance on the program.

<b>Federal Funds</b>		<b>Authorities Which Allow The Department To Purchase Lands</b>
<b>MAP-21 Act</b>	<b>Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act (MAP-21)</b>	MAP-21 extends the federal-aid highway program and authorized funding for the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) as a set aside of the new Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). MAP-21 also amends the Surface Transportation Program (STP) to allow any projects eligible under the RTP to be eligible for STP funds.
<b>LWCF</b>	<b>Land and Water Conservation Fund</b>	The Land and Water Conservation Fund provides funding for the acquisition of land and the development or renovation of outdoor recreation facilities. In the last few funding cycles Michigan has chosen to use LWCF funds for development of outdoor recreation facilities and not for land acquisition.
<b>16 U.S. C. 669-669i (Pittman Robertson)</b>	<b>Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act</b>	Provides funding for the management and restoration of wildlife and provides resources for land acquisition. Funds are raised from an excise tax on ammunition and sporting arms.
<b>16 U.S. C. 777-7771 (Dingell Johnson)</b>	<b>Federal Aid in Sportfishing Restoration Act</b>	Provides resources for state fish restoration, management plans and projects including the acquisition of land that provides access to fishing. Funds are raised on an excise tax on fishing equipment.

Act No. 240  
Public Acts of 2012  
Approved by the Governor  
June 28, 2012  
Filed with the Secretary of State  
July 2, 2012  
EFFECTIVE DATE: July 2, 2012

**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
96TH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2012**

**Introduced by Senators Casperson, Robertson, Green, Marleau, Brandenburg and Pappageorge**

**ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 248**

AN ACT to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled “An act to protect the environment and natural resources of the state; to codify, revise, consolidate, and classify laws relating to the environment and natural resources of the state; to regulate the discharge of certain substances into the environment; to regulate the use of certain lands, waters, and other natural resources of the state; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state and local agencies and officials; to provide for certain charges, fees, assessments, and donations; to provide certain appropriations; to prescribe penalties and provide remedies; and to repeal acts and parts of acts,” by amending sections 503 and 2132 (MCL 324.503 and 324.2132), section 503 as amended by 2011 PA 65 and section 2132 as amended by 1998 PA 117.

*The People of the State of Michigan enact:*

Sec. 503. (1) The department shall protect and conserve the natural resources of this state; provide and develop facilities for outdoor recreation; prevent the destruction of timber and other forest growth by fire or otherwise; promote the reforestation of forestlands belonging to this state; prevent and guard against the pollution of lakes and streams within this state and enforce all laws provided for that purpose with all authority granted by law; and foster and encourage the protecting and propagation of game and fish.

(2) The department has the power and jurisdiction over the management, control, and disposition of all land under the public domain, except for those lands under the public domain that are managed by other state agencies to carry out their assigned duties and responsibilities. On behalf of the people of this state, the department may accept gifts and grants of land and other property and may buy, sell, exchange, or condemn land and other property, for any of the purposes of this part. Beginning 90 days after the effective date of the 2012 amendatory act that amended this section, the department shall not acquire surface rights to land unless the department has estimated the amount of annual payments in lieu of taxes on the land, posted the estimated payments on its website for at least 30 days, and notified the affected local units of the estimated payments at least 30 days before the acquisition.



(3) Before May 1, 2015, the department shall not acquire surface rights to land if the department owns, or as a result of the acquisition will own, the surface rights to more than 4,626,000 acres of land.

(4) Beginning May 1, 2015, the department shall not acquire surface rights to land north of the Mason-Arenac line if the department owns, or as a result of the acquisition will own, the surface rights to more than 3,910,000 acres of land north of the Mason-Arenac line. It is the intention of the legislature, if the legislature approves the strategic plan, to amend this section to remove the limitation set forth in this subsection.

(5) For the purposes of subsections (3) and (4), the number of acres of land in which the department owns surface rights does not include any of the following:

(a) Land in which the department has a conservation easement.

(b) Land platted under the land division act, 1967 PA 288, MCL 560.101 to 560.293, or a predecessor act before the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection if acquired by the department before the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection.

(c) Any of the following if acquired on or after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection:

(i) Land with an area of not more than 80 acres, or a right-of-way, for accessing other land owned by the department.

(ii) A trail, subject to all of the following:

(A) If the traveled portion of the trail is located within an abandoned railroad right-of-way, the land excluded is limited to the abandoned railroad right-of-way.

(B) If the traveled portion of the trail is located in a utility easement, the land excluded is limited to the utility easement.

(C) If sub-subparagraphs (A) and (B) do not apply, the land excluded is limited to the traveled portion of the trail and contiguous land. The area of the contiguous land shall not exceed the product of 100 feet multiplied by the length of the trail in feet.

(iii) Land that, on the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection, was commercial forestland as defined in section 51101 if the land continues to be used in a manner consistent with part 511.

(iv) Land acquired by the department by gift, including the gift of funds specifically dedicated to land acquisition.

(v) Land acquired by the department through litigation.

(6) The department shall maintain a record of land as described in subsection (5)(a) to (c). The record shall include the location, acreage, date of acquisition, and use of the land. The department shall post and maintain on its website all of the following information:

(a) The number of acres of land, including land as described in subsection (5), in which the department owns surface rights north of the Mason-Arenac line, south of the Mason-Arenac line, in total for this state, and by program.

(b) The number of acres of land, excluding land as described in subsection (5), in which the department owns surface rights north of the Mason-Arenac line, south of the Mason-Arenac line, in total for this state, and by program.

(7) By October 1, 2014, the department shall develop a written strategic plan to guide the acquisition and disposition of state lands managed by the department, submit the plan to the senate and house committees with primary responsibility for natural resources and outdoor recreation and the corresponding appropriation subcommittees, and post the plan on the department's website. In developing the plan, the department shall solicit input from the public and local units of government.

(8) The strategic plan shall do all of the following:

(a) Divide this state into regions.

(b) Identify lands managed by the department in each region.

(c) Set forth for each region measurable strategic performance goals with respect to all of the following for land managed by the department:

(i) Maximizing availability of points of access to the land and to bodies of water on or adjacent to the land.

(ii) Maximizing outdoor recreation opportunities.

(iii) Forests.

(iv) Wildlife and fisheries.

(d) To assist in achieving the goals set forth in the strategic plan pursuant to subdivision (c), identify all of the following:

(i) Land to be acquired.

(ii) Land to be disposed of.

(iii) Plans for natural resource management.

(e) To the extent feasible, identify public lands in each region that are not managed by the department but affect the achievement of the goals set forth in the strategic plan pursuant to subdivision (c).

(f) Identify ways that the department can better coordinate the achievement of the goals set forth in the strategic plan pursuant to subdivision (c), recognizing that public lands are subject to multiple uses and both motorized and nonmotorized uses.

(9) The department shall not implement the strategic plan as it applies to land north of the Mason-Arenac line. It is the intention of the legislature, if the legislature approves the strategic plan, to amend this section to remove the prohibition set forth in this subsection. The department shall annually report on the implementation of the plan and submit and post the report in the manner provided in subsection (7).

(10) Beginning 8 years after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection and every 6 years thereafter, the department shall update the strategic plan and submit and post the updated plan in the manner provided in subsection (7). At least 60 days before posting the updated plan, the department shall prepare, submit, and post in the manner provided in subsection (7) a report on progress toward the goals set forth pursuant to subsection (8)(c) in portions of this state where, subject to subsection (9), the plan is being implemented and any proposed changes to the goals, including the rationale for the changes. The submittal and posting shall include department contact information for persons who wish to comment on the report.

(11) At least 30 days before acquiring or disposing of land, the department shall submit to the senate and house committees with primary responsibility for natural resources and outdoor recreation and the corresponding appropriations subcommittees a statement identifying the land and describing the effect of the proposed transaction on achieving the goals set forth in the strategic plan pursuant to subsection (8)(c). The statement shall include department contact information for persons who wish to comment on the acquisition or disposition and be in a standard format. The department shall also post the statement on its website for at least 30 days before the acquisition or disposition. This subsection does not apply before the department submits the plan to legislative committees as required under subsection (7).

(12) The department may accept funds, money, or grants for development of salmon and steelhead trout fishing in this state from the government of the United States, or any of its departments or agencies, pursuant to the anadromous fish conservation act, 16 USC 757a to 757f, and may use this money in accordance with the terms and provisions of that act. However, the acceptance and use of federal funds does not commit state funds and does not place an obligation upon the legislature to continue the purposes for which the funds are made available.

(13) The department may appoint persons to serve as volunteers for the purpose of facilitating the responsibilities of the department as provided in this part. Subject to the direction of the department, a volunteer may use equipment and machinery necessary for the volunteer service, including, but not limited to, equipment and machinery to improve wildlife habitat on state game areas.

(14) The department may lease lands owned or controlled by the department or may grant concessions on lands owned or controlled by the department to any person for any purpose that the department determines to be necessary to implement this part. In granting a concession, the department shall provide that each concession is awarded at least every 7 years based on extension, renegotiation, or competitive bidding. However, if the department determines that a concession requires a capital investment in which reasonable financing or amortization necessitates a longer term, the department may grant a concession for up to a 15-year term. A concession granted under this subsection shall require, unless the department authorizes otherwise, that all buildings and equipment shall be removed at the end of the concession's term. Any lease entered into under this subsection shall limit the purposes for which the leased land is to be used and shall authorize the department to terminate the lease upon a finding that the land is being used for purposes other than those permitted in the lease. Unless otherwise provided by law, money received from a lease or a concession of tax reverted land shall be credited to the fund providing financial support for the management of the leased land. Money received from a lease of all other land shall be credited to the fund from which the land was purchased. However, money received from program-related leases on these lands shall be credited to the fund providing financial support for the management of the leased lands. For land managed by the forest management division of the department, that fund is either the forest development fund established pursuant to section 50507 or the forest recreation account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2005. For land managed by the wildlife or fisheries division of the department, that fund is the game and fish protection account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund provided for in section 2010.

(15) When the department sells land, the deed by which the land is conveyed may reserve all mineral, coal, oil, and gas rights to this state only when the land is in production or is leased or permitted for production, or when the department determines that the land has unusual or sensitive environmental features or that it is in the best interest of this state to reserve those rights as determined by commission policy. However, the department shall not reserve the rights to sand, gravel, clay, or other nonmetallic minerals. When the department sells land that contains subsurface rights, the department shall include a deed restriction that restricts the subsurface rights from being severed from the surface rights in the future. If the landowner severs the subsurface rights from the surface rights, the subsurface rights revert to this state. The deed may reserve to this state the right of ingress and egress over and across land along

watercourses and streams. Whenever an exchange of land is made with the United States government, a corporation, or an individual for the purpose of consolidating the state forest reserves, the department may issue deeds without reserving to this state the mineral, coal, oil, and gas rights and the rights of ingress and egress. The department may sell the limestone, sand, gravel, or other nonmetallic minerals. However, the department shall not sell a mineral or nonmetallic mineral right if the sale would violate part 353, part 637, or any other provision of law. The department may sell all reserved mineral, coal, oil, and gas rights to such lands upon terms and conditions as the department considers proper and may sell oil and gas rights as provided in part 610. The owner of those lands as shown by the records shall be given priority in case the department authorizes any sale of those lands, and, unless the landowner waives that priority, the department shall not sell such rights to any other person. For the purpose of this section, mineral rights do not include rights to sand, gravel, clay, or other nonmetallic minerals.

(16) The department may enter into contracts for the sale of the economic share of royalty interests it holds in hydrocarbons produced from devonian or antrim shale qualifying for the nonconventional source production credit determined under section 45k of the internal revenue code of 1986, 26 USC 45k. However, in entering into these contracts, the department shall assure that revenues to the natural resources trust fund under these contracts are not less than the revenues the natural resources trust fund would have received if the contracts were not entered into. The sale of the economic share of royalty interests under this subsection may occur under contractual terms and conditions considered appropriate by the department and as approved by the state administrative board. Funds received from the sale of the economic share of royalty interests under this subsection shall be transmitted to the state treasurer for deposit in the state treasury as follows:

(a) Net proceeds allocable to the nonconventional source production credit determined under section 45k of the internal revenue code of 1986, 26 USC 45k, under this subsection shall be credited to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a.

(b) Proceeds related to the production of oil or gas from devonian or antrim shale shall be credited to the natural resources trust fund or other applicable fund as provided by law.

(17) As used in this section:

(a) "Concession" means an agreement between the department and a person under terms and conditions as specified by the department to provide services or recreational opportunities for public use.

(b) "Lease" means a conveyance by the department to a person of a portion of this state's interest in land under specific terms and for valuable consideration, thereby granting to the lessee the possession of that portion conveyed during the period stipulated.

(c) "Mason-Arenac line" means the line formed by the north boundaries of Mason, Lake, Osceola, Clare, Gladwin, and Arenac counties.

(d) "Natural resources trust fund" means the Michigan natural resources trust fund established in section 35 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963 and provided for in section 1902.

(e) "Net proceeds" means the total receipts received from the sale of royalty interests under subsection (16) less costs related to the sale. Costs may include, but are not limited to, legal, financial advisory, geological or reserve studies, and accounting services.

(f) "Strategic plan" or "plan" means the plan developed under subsection (7).

Sec. 2132. (1) Subject to subsection (2), the department may sell surplus land at a price established using the method that the department determines to be most appropriate, such as any of the following:

(a) Appraisal.

(b) Appraisal consulting.

(c) A schedule adopted by the department for pricing property with uniform characteristics and low utility.

(d) The true cash value of nearby land as determined by the local assessor.

(2) If the department offers tax reverted land for sale and the land is not sold within 9 months, the department may sell the land to a qualified buyer who submits an offer that represents a reasonable price for the property as determined by the department.

(3) The sale of surplus land shall be conducted by the department through 1 of the following methods:

(a) A public auction sale.

(b) A negotiated sale.

(4) Subject to subsection (1), the sale of surplus land through a public auction sale shall be to the highest bidder.

(5) A notice of the sale of surplus land shall be given as provided in section 2133.

(6) The proceeds from the sale of surplus land shall be deposited into the fund.

(7) Surplus land that is sold under this subpart shall be conveyed by quitclaim deed approved by the attorney general.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

Carol Morey Viventi

Secretary of the Senate

Gay E. Randall

Clerk of the House of Representatives

Approved .....

.....  
Governor



## **APPENDIX TWO – STRATEGY SUPPORT DOCUMENTS**

### **Definitions**

For purposes of this plan,

Action Item: Approaches designed to meet measurable objectives

Campnight: The occupancy, either by an individual and/or their equipment of a designated campsite or campground between the hours of 10 pm and 8 am and within the term of a registered period.

Cultural Resources: Includes historic resources

Dispersed Recreation: All forms of outdoor recreation not supported by infrastructure where visitors are diffused over relatively large areas such as bird watching, mushroom picking, hunting and backcountry camping and hiking.

Ecosystem Management: Ecosystem management is a process that integrates biological, social and economic factors into a comprehensive strategy aimed at protecting and enhancing sustainability, diversity and productivity of our natural resources. There are eight specific elements of ecosystem management employed by the DNR for managing Michigan's natural resources. These elements include sustainability; goals; sound ecological models and understanding; complex and connectedness; the dynamic character of ecosystems; context and scale; humans as ecosystem components; and adaptability and accountability.

Featured Species: Wildlife species that are highly valued AND have a habitat issue AND have been selected to focus management efforts. Featured species are priorities for the

DNR Wildlife Division and they will direct resources towards management of their habitats. These species are not the only species that the Wildlife Division values, but they are the higher priority species that have a habitat issue that we can address. The management of habitat for the featured species will affect other species to varying degrees.

Forest Certification: Forest certification is a voluntary program that identifies and recognizes well managed forests and verifies sustainable forest management. It is an outgrowth of the desire of many stakeholders here and throughout the world to have forest managers demonstrate that they are managing their forests responsibly. Certification involves independent, third party review of on-the-ground forest practices against standards that address environmental, social and economic benefits. Annual surveillance audits and periodic recertification is required following initial certification.

Goal: Represents broad high level theme that reflects the mission of the DNR

Measurable Objectives: Key accomplishments necessary to meet outcomes.

Outcomes: The expected result of the measurable objectives and represents success at meeting a goal.

Role of State Land: The part state land can play in meeting the outcomes.

## **DNR Public Land Management Strategy: Development Process**

### **Internal DNR Team**

A DNR-wide team was appointed in order to coordinate the development of a draft strategy. Throughout the process additional DNR resource experts were identified and consulted, as necessary.

### **External Coordination**

DNR staff met with a variety of external organizations at the onset in order to help inform the process and to ensure that a diversity of perspectives were included. These organizations included:

- Public Sector Consultants
- Michigan Economic Development Corporation
- Land Policy Institute
- Land Conservation Organizations
- DNR Stakeholders

### **Public Land Management Strategy Advisory Committee**

An Advisory Committee was appointed by the DNR Director in order to advise the internal DNR team on the development of the strategy. This Advisory Committee consisted of representatives from both traditional DNR stakeholders as well as non-traditional participants. Advisory Committee members included representatives from the following organizations:

- Michigan United Conservation Clubs
- The Nature Conservancy
- Little Traverse Conservancy
- Trout Unlimited
- Northern Initiatives
- Southeast Michigan Council of Governments

- Alliance for Economic Success
- The Right Place
- Northeast Michigan Council of Governments
- Chevron North American Production and Exploration Company
- Michigan Environmental Council
- Plum Creek Timber Company
- Oakland County Parks and Recreation
- Michigan Recreation and Parks Association
- Michigan Snowmobile Association
- Michigan State University

### **Natural Resources Commission**

DNR staff provided regular updates on the development of the strategy to the Natural Resources Commission throughout the process. In addition, the draft strategy was presented for Commission review in April. DNR staff is also scheduled to provide an update to the Commission in May.

### **Quality of Life Group Review**

Updates on the development of the strategy, as well as the draft document, have been provided to the Quality of Life Group.

### **Public Outreach**

DNR staff has made a concentrated effort to encourage public involvement and ensure public awareness of the draft strategy. In addition to scheduled public meetings throughout the state, public outreach efforts have included:

- Press releases
- Website postings
- Public comment opportunities via the website
- Social media – Facebook, Twitter
- Gov delivery announcements
- Direct invitations

## **Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) Meetings**

In coordination with Public Sector Consultants, the DNR organized and hosted six regional meetings of 15 to 25 local economic and community development leaders from each of the state's Collaborative Development Councils. The purpose of the meetings was to discuss how local and regional economic development efforts currently depend on or are impacted by natural resources and public land management, and what economic and community development needs the DNR should consider when making decisions regarding land acquisition, disposal, and management of public lands in Michigan's regions. Invitees included representatives from chambers of commerce, regional economic development agencies, councils of government, convention and visitors bureau, community parks and recreation and planning departments, land conservancies (or other non-profits involved in real estate purchase and management), local political leaders, and foundations. Numerous opportunities for collaboration and partnerships arose from each of these meetings. Discussions with the invitees in each MEDC region were held as follows:

- Region 1 – Marquette
- Regions 2 & 3 – Gaylord
- Region 4 – Grand Rapids
- Region 5 – Bay City
- Regions 6 & 7 – Battle Creek
- Regions 8, 9 & 10 – Waterford

The overall themes that were discussed by the MEDC meeting participants included:

- Strong support for the DNR to assist in helping improve prosperity of rural communities
- Recognition of the numerous benefits that public land has on the economic development initiatives in each region

- Strong support for trails and trail linkages, along with non-traditional trails that create means to explore various activities and link state facilities to communities such as a lighthouse trail, brewery trail, woodcock hunting trail or elk viewing observation trail
- Strong support for increased collaboration between the DNR, communities and businesses
- There is a lack of awareness by the general public of how to access and use state forest lands
- Strong support for DNR staff becoming consultants to local unit of government prosperity initiatives
- Strong support for sharing data to assist in economic development decisions
- Offers to help market state-owned public lands and facilities
- Interest in having DNR staff serve as consultants to local units of governments, providing their expertise to fulfill shared mission opportunities.

## **Public Informational Meetings**

As part of the public outreach effort, the DNR hosted nine public informational open house meetings around the state. The primary purpose of these meetings was to provide a history of public land ownership, an outline of requirements, and information on the draft strategy. Meetings were held in each of the following locations:

- Waterford
- Battle Creek
- Harrison
- Traverse City
- Gaylord
- Marquette
- St. Ignace
- Grand Rapids
- Bay City

Another purpose of the public informational meetings was to provide an opportunity for the public to ask questions and provide input and comments on the draft strategy. A subset of the overall themes of the public comments received both at the public meetings and via the DNR website includes:

- Support for public lands and the way that the DNR manages public lands
- Strong pushback on the idea that there is too much state-managed public land including lack of support for the disposal approach
- People in northern Michigan do not support selling state land in the north to acquire more land in the south
- Concern about fracking
- Concern about legislative attempt to eliminate the DNR's ability to manage for biodiversity
- Need to rethink the way that we reach out to the public
- Plan overemphasizes extractive industries
- Don't restrict motorized access
- Need to establish quiet areas where no motorized vehicles can go
- Not enough coverage on need for habitat protection
- Concern that politics is driving the Public Land Management strategy and that politicians don't understand the importance of public lands
- Support for increased marketing
- Forest roads should not be open to ORV use
- Concern about the potential diversions of the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
- Need to purchase and conserve coastal zones and dunes
- There is support for acquiring more land in the southern part of the state, but not at the expense of the public land in the northern part of the state

## Top Ten County Meetings

In an effort to be more collaborative and inclusive with local units of government and regional decision-makers, the DNR Director initiated meetings with the ten counties that contain the highest percentage of state-owned public land. The conversations at these meetings included the DNR's commitment to increased collaboration and partnership opportunities in an effort to help promote local and regional natural resource-based economies, outdoor recreation and natural resource protection. The meetings concluded with a commitment for increased engagement in the future. Key topics discussed at each meeting included changes to Payment in Lieu of Taxes statute, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund opportunities and recent land transactions.

Key themes that emerged from the meetings included:

- The need to coordinate and facilitate grant opportunities
- Strategically identify and establish trail hubs and heads
- Fully engage local leadership in May-13 May 13 both acquisition and disposal of parcels.
- Improve the general local engagement model and consider local officials as equal partners.

Meeting specific topics included:

- Roscommon County (60% state-owned)
  - Belief that Houghton Lake, Higgins Lake, Au Sable River and all of the public lands are the best assets in the County. However need a longer term strategic plan
  - Concern on overall economy and health care in the county

- Believe the trail systems in the County are very well managed and are an excellent draw to the area
  - Concern about Camp Nokomis – abandoned DHS facility located on DNR-managed lands
- Luce County (51% state-owned)
  - Would like to see increased access to state forest lands (road access plan)
  - Concern about gaps in trail connections
  - Would like to discuss the potential for locating an ORV scramble area on state-owned land in the County
  - Impact of forestry on local roads.
- Crawford County (50% state-owned)
  - Feeling that the County actually benefitted from the large amount of public ownership during the recent recession due to it buffering the loss of taxable value on lands in the County
  - Understanding that there are opportunities for increased recreation and marketing of both the recreation and resources in the County, but concern about the balance with user groups that don't want increased use
  - Very encouraged that there is now a feeling of hope when working with the DNR. However they are looking for action not just conversation.
  - Concern over individual park decisions and business uses.
- Dickinson County (46% state-owned)
  - Acquisition of trail connections in the area, including across the state border with Wisconsin, should continue to be a priority (includes a priority bike trail)
- Feel that there needs to be more publicity to link private forestland owners with timber management opportunities
  - Would like more township level engagement
- Kalkaska County (45% state-owned)
  - County would like the State to buy more land in the County
  - Most revenue in County is generated through natural resources and recreation and would like to see an expansion of those opportunities
  - Desire to make the area a recreation destination and best option for that is with large blocks of public ownership
  - Concern in parcel disposition and potential sand mining disruption on local land uses.
- Cheboygan County (41% state-owned)
  - County clearly understands benefits of public land base, trails and water and would like to expand water trail opportunities
  - Very progressive thinking on partnerships to use trails and public land to benefit the health of the community, lower obesity rates, and use the health of the area to market it and draw people to live there
  - Appreciation of the investments that the DNR has made in northern Michigan – impressions from out of state/out of country visitors that no other place preserves the natural resources and has the state park opportunities that Michigan does
  - Asking how to develop entrepreneurs around natural resource assets
- Montmorency County (39% state-owned)
  - Would like to do more marketing and collaboration to draw tourists to the area, targeting elk

- Happy about the development of a new equestrian camp at Clear Lake
- Very understanding of user conflicts on state lands – specifically competing trail uses – and favor consolidation
- Need additional boat launches on local lakes
- Schoolcraft County (38% state-owned)
  - Trail connections to link to local communities
  - Would like more township level engagement
  - Linked sustainable hardwood timber supply with economic development
  - Desires assistance on east end of the country and water access
- Mackinac County (33% state-owned)
  - Invasive species (milfoil) has negatively impacted tax base
  - Work with partners to enhance UP Welcome Center in St. Ignace and/or Father Marquette Memorial area
  - Revisit feasibility of North Lake Huron Scenic Pathway and potential for partnerships
- Benzie County (31% state-owned)
  - Economy of the County is based on tourism and agriculture
  - Strong support for the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
  - Believe that rather than selling “unconsolidated” lands, they should be made available for land exchanges
  - Increase water access sites

### **Statewide Stakeholder Meeting**

The DNR hosted a statewide stakeholder meeting in order to provide information on the development of the draft strategy and receive additional input from stakeholder groups interested in DNR land management. Over 500 stakeholders were invited to this event, including all

members of all of the DNR advisory committees. Themes that were discussed include:

- Disposal strategy – there is tremendous public support for retaining public land in northern Michigan
- Strong support for additional recreational opportunities in southern Michigan
- Strong support for the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
- Should dispel the misconception that the DNR doesn’t manage all state lands
- Strategy seems to be more economically driven than resource driven
- The intangible benefits of public land need to be recognized

### **Public Comments received electronically or in written form**

The public was provided 30 days to provide comments on the draft Public Land Management Strategy. The DNR received 515 comments electronically and 35 written comments. The written comment themes included:

- Do not rush production of the plan
- Protect biodiversity on state land
- Plan over-represents extractive industries
- Not enough attention was paid to urban areas
- Manage lands to allow public to view wildlife
- Increase public access to water bodies
- Don’t increase road access to public lands
- The strategy should drive acquisition and disposal not land consolidation
- Increase education on need for diversity
- Support for increased recreational lands in Southern Michigan
- Need for public involvement in land disposal process

- Plan needs to balance between economic outputs of state lands and wilderness opportunities
- Include greater detail in acquisition and disposal process
- Confer with local units of government and counties when disposing of land
- More emphasis on the importance of state forests for wildlife
- Recognize the small parcels of public lands have great recreational value
- Don't trade off public lands in the north for land in the southern portion of the state
- Provide more specific information about individual parcels of state land... how they were acquired, purpose for acquiring, future plans
- Support for trail linkages
- Support for friends organizations and recognition of their importance
- Define key terms in strategy
- Support the need for increased marketing and marketing with partners
- Don't dispose of land in the Upper Peninsula
- Don't sell state lands for agricultural purposes

### Limitations on the Use of State Land

There are many sources of funding that are used to purchase state land for public purposes. All funding sources carry some criteria as to how the land can be utilized. Three primary sources of funding that include restrictions with respect to trail-related recreation on the acquired lands are: (1) Pittman Robertson Wildlife Restoration Funds (PR), (2) Dingell Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Fund (DJ) and (3) License Fee Acquired Lands (LF).

- **PR/DJ Grant Acquired and Managed Lands:** DNR lands which are PR/DJ acquired and/or managed are distributed in a checker board pattern across the

state. Many of these areas are desirable to a variety of recreation users. Trail use is not prohibited on PR/DJ purchased land. However, when it does occur, the intensity and frequency cannot interfere with the primary purpose of hunting and fishing. For example, PR/DJ funds cannot be used for enforcement of use restrictions or other non-PR/DJ purposes on PR/DJ lands. As an example, should the US Fish and Wildlife Service determine that the state is not adequately managing the frequency and intensity of equestrian use on these lands and if a satisfactory resolution is not achieved, future PR/DJ funding is jeopardized. Since these funds have been significant-\$23.5 million in 2012-careful management of non-hunting and non-fishing activities is very important.

- **License Fee Acquired and Managed Lands:** Some DNR lands were acquired and/or are managed with hunting and fishing license fees. A provision of the PR (1937) and DJ (1950) Acts is that states must assent to only use state license fees for fish and wildlife services. Michigan assented in 1939. The state acceptance of these provisions is found in Section 324.40501 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act 451 of 1994 where it states "*...funds accruing to this state from license fees paid for by hunters shall not be used for any purpose other than game and fish activities under the administration of the DNR.*" The DNR complies with the law by only allowing for trails that support fish and wildlife purposes.



# **DNR Public Land Strategy Economic Development Roundtable: Summary of Key Themes**

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**May 10, 2013**

***Prepared by:***

Public Sector Consultants Inc.  
Lansing, Michigan

***Prepared for:***

Michigan United Conservation Clubs  
Lansing, Michigan

Michigan Department of Natural Resources  
Lansing, Michigan

## BACKGROUND

Over the last year, Michigan's governor and legislature have taken steps to emphasize the importance of our public lands in providing recreational, environmental, and economic benefits, and stress that Michigan must evaluate the extent and quality of its current and future public land holdings to ensure that they continue to provide value for the state. As part of this effort the Michigan Legislature passed, and Governor Snyder signed, Public Law 240 of 2012, which caps the amount of land owned by the state and managed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) at 4.65 million acres until the agency develops and submits a strategic land management plan. The law requires that the agency develop a plan for the acquisition and sale of land with an emphasis on multi-use recreation, including motorized and non-motorized uses, and public access.

The Department of Natural Resources wanted to ensure that the state land plan is aligned with regional economic and community development goals. As such, PSC, with funding support from the Mott Foundation, assisted the agency in hosting and facilitating six regional meetings of between 15 and 25 local economic and community development leaders from each of the state's Economic Development Collaborative Councils. The purpose of the meetings was to discuss how local and regional economic development efforts currently depend on or are impacted by natural resources and public land management, and what economic and community development needs the DNR should consider when making decisions regarding land acquisition, disposal, and management of public lands in Michigan's regions. Invitees included representatives from chambers of commerce, regional economic development agencies, councils of government, convention and visitors bureau, community parks and recreation and planning departments, land conservancies (or other non-profits involved in real estate purchase and management), local political leaders, and foundations (see Appendix A for full list of roundtable attendees).

## SUMMARY OF KEY THEMES

The conversations at the roundtable meetings were robust and informative, and participants provided the DNR with numerous suggestions for better leveraging state public lands for regional economic development purposes. Below is a summary of some of the key themes and ideas that emerged across all six roundtable meetings.

### ***Public lands are a significant asset for local economic development and should not shrink overall***

At each of the roundtable meetings, participants were asked whether public lands help or hinder their local economic development efforts and how. The resounding (and almost unanimous) answer was that public lands are a significant economic development asset. There was no push at any of the meetings for the DNR to significantly reduce or dispose of current land holdings.

A few participants noted that the loss of tax base for counties or townships with substantial public lands can be very challenging for local communities, and that there needs to be a balance of private-sector opportunities. However, most participants pointed to the fact that state lands:

- Support tourism and associated economic development
- Generate revenue from the extraction and sale of natural resources
- Create small business opportunities (equipment, recreation outfitters)
- Attract businesses and workers by contributing local placemaking

There was also some recognition that state lands contribute to the health and well-being of their communities and that this provides indirect economic benefits. One of the participants even noted that the City of Denver, Colorado is explicitly marketing its city to businesses based on the reduced health care costs related to the wide range of recreational opportunities in the area.

*Luce County, which has over 50% public lands, leases about 2,800 acres of state land for timber harvesting. The lease arrangement with the state has generated over \$2 million over the 30 years of that lease*

Participants at all of the meetings provided numerous examples of the assets that public lands provide, such as increased number of visitors to regions for vacations or short recreation trips – all of whom spend money on lodging, food, recreation equipment, fuel, and other amenities. Some participants also mentioned the economic benefits associated with natural resource industries such as forestry and mining in their areas, including jobs, sales of equipment and tools, and revenue from resource sales.

### ***Addressing some infrastructure gaps would help further advance economic development***

While most of the roundtable participants felt that state public lands offer many different opportunities for visitors and businesses, there was significant discussion at each meeting regarding additional infrastructure or infrastructure improvements that might help attract more people and businesses to their regions. Following are some of the most commonly cited types of infrastructure or public land needs:

- **Trails.** There was substantial support for state-owned or state-assisted development of new trails (non-motorized, motorized, and equestrian), trail connections on key existing trails, and water trails.
- **Public land access.** Participants cited the lack of access to many of the state's public lands as a hindrance to greater use and associated economic benefits. Infrastructure such as roads, parking, trailheads, and other signage which directs people to the public lands were all noted as important needs. In urban areas, participants noted that new public lands as well as safe infrastructure are important for increasing access. Participants also highlighted that in some cases, access may be visual and not physical, and that the state should consider people's ability to view natural areas and water bodies (the Great Lakes in particular) when making acquisition and disposition decisions.
- **Great Lakes access.** Participants were supportive of the draft Land Plan's goal for Great Lakes access every five or six miles. Identified infrastructure needs to help promote Great Lakes access included non-motorized watercraft (such as canoe and kayak) launches and landings, water trail markers and signs, and beach access sites.
- **ORV "scramble" areas and trail connections.** In addition to more ORV trails (particularly cross-state trail connections), there was interest in increasing the number and geographic spread of ORV scramble areas (the state currently has five), which are designated areas in which an ORV operator is NOT restricted to the use of the existing trails or pathways.
- **Fishing.** In several meetings, participants noted a continuing need for infrastructure that supports fishing access, including additional fishing spots (public lands that provide fishing access), and improved docks and piers (including facilities that comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act).
- **Lodging.** Participants in a few of the meetings cited the need for more unique lodging options on public lands (generally state parks), including continued investment in yurts, potentially creating eco fishing and canoe/kayak villages on waterfront or wetland areas of state parks, and offering wilderness lodges (similar to some of those in national parks) in some of the state's iconic parks.

## ***There should be stronger coordination and integration of efforts between the DNR and local communities on economic development efforts***

At each of the roundtable meetings there was substantial discussion of how the DNR and local communities could better partner on public land management and investment efforts in order to expand economic development opportunities. While there were several examples cited of how this type of partnering is already working well informally at the field level, there is a clear need for some greater institutionalizing of these efforts, on the part of both the DNR and local communities. Participants stressed that getting more (and consistent/reliable) data from the DNR on state land users, events, unique features, and business opportunities would help them in their economic development efforts. In particular, many people noted that they don't understand the "access points" into the DNR when they need information or would like to do business with the DNR.

Some of the key opportunities identified to address the need for greater collaboration include:

- **DNR state land "tool kits" for local communities.** The DNR should provide local communities with state public lands a tool kit that helps them understand and leverage the state lands in their communities. The tool kit might include an overview of the public land (features, maps, photos), list of annual events and programming, highlights of associated economic benefits and opportunities associated with those lands (such as revenue generated, visitor statistics, infrastructure investments, related jobs, business opportunities), and contact information for DNR staff broken down by common questions and information needs.
- **Marketing Collaboration.** Suggestions for improved marketing collaboration took three general forms: improved online marketing, better "real time" information to include in local marketing efforts, and cross-training and information sharing.
  - ◆ In terms of online marketing, there was widespread support for the DNR to improve its own website to better showcase the recreation and tourism opportunities of public lands, including making it more interactive, providing better photos and interactive maps, and offering more robust and easier-to-access information on the facilities available on public lands. In addition, communities would like the DNR and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) to continue tying the marketing of public lands to the Pure Michigan campaign, and to offer interactive online tools for "visiting" state lands and understanding what other community features are available in that area (such as restaurants, hotel, and equipment sales/repair). Local communities should be linking to the DNR's public land websites and vice versa.
  - ◆ Communities would also like the DNR to be a better partner in "real time" marketing opportunities. For example, if state land managers could regularly send local economic development and convention and visitors groups real time updates (via e-mail, tweet or text) on unique ecological or environmental happenings that might attract visitors (such as bird or wildlife sightings), those groups could blast those updates through their networks to help attract visitors and recreationalists to the area. Local businesses could also benefit from receiving updated information on

*One of the roundtable participants shared that they tweeted and posted to Facebook about a rare bird sighting in the Saginaw Bay region last month, and within 24 hours there were hundreds of birders and photographers visiting the area to get a glimpse of the birds. These visitors spent money eating at local restaurants and staying in hotels – a "real time" economic bump.*

events such as races or festivals on public lands by tailoring their hours or services to better meet the needs of people attending those events.

- ◆ Several participants suggested that there may be opportunities for person-to-person training and information sharing meetings between public land employees and local communities. If business owners knew more about what the parks had to offer in terms of programming and events, they could direct visitors to them, and likewise, DNR staff could direct visitors to local businesses if they were more knowledgeable about their services. This type of cross training/information sharing benefits both parties.
- **Public land lease opportunities.** At several of the roundtable meetings, participants expressed interest in potential opportunities for local governments, individuals, or small businesses to be able to lease public lands for economic development purposes. Some of the suggested opportunities:
  - ◆ Agriculture uses of non-forested properties, such as bee-keeping/honey producing, small crop production for local farmers markets, larger crop production
  - ◆ Recreational services such as canoe or kayak liveries, lodging, equipment rentals
- **Participation of DNR in regional economic development planning efforts.** In some areas of the state, public lands are already a significant part of economic development strategies, and some regions have specifically included public lands and recreation opportunities in the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies required by the Economic Development Administration. While the DNR has played an informal role in those conversations in some regions, the relationship has not been consistent. Participants all agreed that opportunities for integrating public lands into regional economic development strategies would be improved if the DNR participated more consistently in regional economic development forums, such as the ten Economic Development Collaboratives (which generally meet monthly to discuss strategy and projects).

## **Appendix A: List of Roundtable Attendees**

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### ***Economic Development Collaborative Regions 8, 9, and 10***

**April 9, 2013**

**Waterford Oaks Lookout Lodge, Waterford**

Amy Mangus, Southeast Michigan Council of Governments  
Amy McMillan, Genesee County Parks and Recreation  
Anne Vaara, Clinton River Watershed Council  
Barb Scott, Livingston County Department of Planning  
Chris Bunch, Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy  
Courtney Irish, Flint and Genesee Chamber of Commerce  
Dan Stencil, Oakland County Parks and Recreation  
Gerard Santoro, Macomb County Planning  
Joe Stock, Lapeer County  
Kathleen Kline-Hudson, Livingston County Department of Planning  
Laura Rubin, Huron River Watershed Council  
Sue Nyquist, Huron County Metropark Authority

### ***Economic Development Collaborative Regions 6 and 7***

**April 10, 2013**

**Burnham Brook Community Center, Battle Creek**

Angela Myers, Battle Creek Community Foundation  
Cathy Knapp, Southwest Michigan First  
Cheryl Beard, Battle Creek Unlimited  
Christine Hnatiw, Tri-County Regional Planning Commission  
Dawn Dur, Calhoun County Visitors Bureau  
Krista Trout-Edwards, Calhoun County Land Bank Authority  
Lee Adams, Kalamazoo County Southcentral Michigan Planning Council  
Marcy Colclough, Southwest Michigan Planning Commission  
Michael McCuistion, Edward Lowe Foundation  
Peter D. TerLouw, Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy  
Thad Rieder, Cornerstone Alliance

### ***Economic Development Collaborative Regions 2 and 3***

**April 16, 2013**

**Livingston Township Hall, Gaylord**

Becky Ewing, Rotary Charities of Traverse City  
Brad Jensen, Huron Pines Conservation District  
Bruno Wojcik, Montmorency Economic Development Corporation  
Carlin Smith, Petoskey Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Chris Engle, Gaylord Herald Times  
Dana Bensinger, Otsego County Community Foundation  
Emily Myerson, Top of Michigan Trails Council  
Jason Jones, Grand Traverse County Parks and Recreation  
Jeff Ratcliffe, Otsego County Economic Alliance  
Joe Libby, Economic Development Corporation of Presque Isle County  
John Walters, Pigeon River Country Advisory Council

Lisha Ramsdell , Huron Pines Conservation District  
Rachel McNinch, Walther Farms  
Rick Harland, Grayling Charter Township  
Scott Gest, Northwest Michigan Council of Governments  
Steve Schnell, Cheboygan County Community Development

### ***Economic Development Collaborative Region 1***

**April 17, 2013**

#### **Northern Michigan University, Marquette**

Alex Knudson, Lake Superior Community Partnership  
Amy Berglund, Senator Carl Levin's office  
Bob Hoeft  
Caralee Swanberg, Lake Superior Community Partnership  
Carmen Pittenger, Luce County Economic Development Corporation  
Carol Eavou, Sault Ste. Marie Band of Chippewa Indians  
Christine Rector, Northern Initiatives  
Dale McNamee, State Senator Tom Casperson's office  
Dennis Stachewicz, City of Marquette  
Gary LaPlant, Community Foundations of the Upper Peninsula  
Karl Zueger, City of Marquette  
Lloyd Matthes, Central Upper Peninsula Planning and Development  
Richard Smith, Central Upper Peninsula Planning and Development  
Robert Eslinger, Northern Michigan University  
Vince Bevins, Michigan Department of Transportation

### ***Economic Development Collaborative Region 4***

**April 22, 2013**

#### **Michigan Department of Transportation Service Center, Grand Rapids**

April Scholtz, West Michigan Land Conservancy  
Jim McInnis, Mason County Growth Alliance  
John Scholtz, Ottawa County Parks and Recreation  
Kara Wood, Grand Rapids Economic Development Commission  
Kathy McClean, Ludington & Scottville Area Chamber of Commerce  
Nora Balgoyen-Williams, AAESA / Allegan County Michigan Works  
Patty Birkholz, Michigan League of Conservation Voters  
Rick Chapla, The Right Place  
Sara Kronlein, Ludington & Scottville Area Chamber of Commerce  
Suzanne Schulz, City of Grand Rapids  
Tom Werkman, Bank of Holland/Ottawa County Parks and Recreation

### ***Economic Development Collaborative Region 5***

**April 25, 2013**

#### **Delta College Planetarium and Learning Center, Bay City**

Annette Rummel, Great Lakes Bay Regional Convention and Visitors Bureau  
Brenda Flory, Michigan Economic Development Corporation  
Carl Osentoski, Huron and Sanilac County Economic Development Corporation  
Dawn Peruski, Huron County Commissioner  
Harry Leaver, Saginaw Valley State University Center for Business and Economic Development  
Jane Fitzpatrick, Eastern Michigan Council of Governments  
Jim Bedell, City of Bay City

John Renneberg, Gratiot County Commissioner  
Ken Hibl, City of Clare  
Magen Samyn, Bay Future, Inc.  
Mike Seward, Bay Area Chamber of Commerce  
Terry Moore, Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance  
Tom Hickner, Bay County  
Trevor Edmonds, Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy



## Explanation of Measurable Objectives

### Goal 1: Ensure Recreational Opportunities to Enjoy and Appreciate Michigan's Natural and Cultural Resources

#### Metric for access to public lands

*Increase citizen satisfaction with the amount of public recreation facilities by 5 percent.*

The Department of Natural Resources will regularly conduct a survey of Michigan citizens to measure their use and enjoyment of Michigan's outdoor recreation resources. The baseline survey was conducted in 2012 to inform the 2013-2017 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). Seventy-nine percent of the respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with the amount of outdoor recreation in Michigan.

**Measurable Objective:** Completion of a road plan that ensures motorized and non-motorized access to public lands.

Justification:

- This objective is explicitly required by Public Act 240 of 2012 in section 503 (8) (f).
- Access planning promotes citizen's use of public land
- The network of roads within a forest allows access for a variety of uses.
- Road planning explains the purpose and provides a framework for road infrastructure and access according to the needs in each location.

Current Role of State land:

- Planning for forest roads, recreation trails, and other motorized and non-motorized access infrastructure

related to State Forest land currently takes place during the compartment review process.

- The Department manages large blocks of State-owned land that facilitate the planning and development of interconnected road and trail systems.

Actions to Achieve the Objective: As funding becomes available:

- Define a standard for a forest road. Develop GIS layer that provides a complete inventory of all county, DNR, and private roads throughout state owned lands.
- Determine where lands or easements are needed to create roads for access
- Define appropriate road density within specific geographic areas according to their priority natural resource values

**Measurable Objective:** Provide access within 15 miles of 500 acre (or more) blocks of public lands that provide dispersed recreation opportunities (SCORP, Wildlife GPS, RMNSSF 2010, State Forest Management Plan).

**Measurable Objective:** Access to the amount of land available for dispersed public recreation in southern Michigan is increased by 25 percent, with emphasis in areas with low per capita access.

Justification: The vast majority of Michigan citizens do not have the means to own land close to their homes for recreational pursuits. Public lands provide for a wide range of dispersed recreation uses that do not align with other specific measurable objectives or the initiatives which accompany them. In addition, the opportunity for dispersed recreation on public lands is a significant attraction for out-of-state tourists.

Role of land: Public land provides dispersed recreation opportunities in both consumptive and non-consumptive forms. This includes hunting, fishing, berry and mushroom picking, fuelwood collection, bird watching and other various forms of wildlife viewing. The values provided vary by region as well as

Role of State land:

- State Parks and Recreation areas: The state park system provides over 300,000 acres at 101 sites to provide open space for a wide variety of dispersed and more concentrated recreational pursuits, Facilities include over 12,800 campsites, 900 miles of trails, beaches, picnic areas, and opportunities for hunting, trapping, fishing, gathering, wildlife observation and birding.
- State Game and Wildlife Areas: The state game and wildlife area system provides over 400,000 acres at 110 state game and wildlife areas and facilities located mainly in the southern half of the Lower Peninsula. These wildlife areas provide hunting, trapping, viewing and wildlife habitat for public use.

Actions to Achieve Objective:

- Increase efforts to assemble large blocks of State-owned land that facilitate diverse dispersed recreation opportunities in southern Michigan.

**Measurable Objective:** Ensure that opportunities on public lands meet the needs of young people as determined by surveys.

**Measurable Objective:** Provide public access (including boating access) on lakes over 100 acres.

**Measurable Objective:** Provide public boating access on lakes over 500 acres.

**Measurable Objective:** Complete a gap analysis of existing access points on rivers identified as priorities by Fisheries Division and fill identified gaps in access.

**Measurable Objective:** Provide access to 25% of smaller lakes (less than 100 acres in size) that have significant recreational opportunity as identified by Fisheries Division

Justification: All Michigan residents and visitors should have easy, convenient access to all the state's lakes, rivers and streams through public facilities. Boating access sites provide the legal and safe means for the public to access the waters of Michigan for recreational boating, fishing, and hunting. Michigan is a national and international resource for boaters and others seeking water-related recreational opportunities and continued development is necessary to meet demand. There are over 800,000 boats registered in Michigan (third in the US), contributing funds for the acquisition, development and maintenance of the State's public waterways program, and making a large contribution to the local and state economy.

Current Role of State Land: To provide 1,025 public boating access sites on inland lakes and streams.

Future Role of State Land: To provide additional public access sites on streams or inland lakes in the absence of local partners under the following criteria:

- Provide public access on lakes over 100 acres in size that are wholly surrounded by state land.
- Provide boating access on navigable streams or lakes over 100 acres in size where a local partner is not available as prioritized by the Waterways Commission.
- Provide alternative (carry-on or shore) access to priority lakes and streams.

#### Actions to Achieve Objective:

- Waterways Commission prioritizes acquisition and development of access sites on lakes over 100 acres in size based upon boating demand and recreational resources and lake characteristics and natural resource impacts
- Department identifies potential partners for highest priority lakes and works with partners to prepare strategy for acquiring and developing access sites.
- Upgrade and expand existing boating access sites based upon criteria supported by the Waterways Commission to meet demand and best management practices.
- Collaborate with local partners to acquire three to five sites within the next five to six years.
- Develop and approve a priority list and criteria for public access sites that may provide other access opportunities besides just boating (i.e. hunting, fishing, canoeing, and kayaking).

#### State land management modification:

Upgrade and expand existing boating access sites based on criteria established by the Waterways Commission to meet demand, to improve accessibility and in accordance with Best Management Practices.

**Measurable Objective:** Provide a safe harbor of refuge system on the Great Lakes with one harbor every 30 miles. (PRD Strategic Plan/Waterways Commission)

**Justification:** The Harbor-of-Refuge system was established with the objective to develop harbors and docking facilities on the Great Lakes shoreline as required to provide for safe boating enjoyment of these waters, and to encourage tourist-related economic development.

**Current Role of State Land:** Currently there are 19 state-owned and operated safe harbors of refuge, one of which is managed and operated by a local partner.

**Future Role of State Land:** Traditionally, the DNR has acquired the land to provide the Harbor of Refuge. The Harbor of Refuge system will be completed with the addition of one harbor located near Cross Village. In the past, harbors of refuge have provided both safe harborage, access to the Great Lakes and marina facilities. The Cross Village Harbor of Refuge has not moved forward because a suitable site was not available that met all three objectives. The Department should reconsider the requirement to meet all objectives in order to achieve completion of the Harbor of Refuge system.

#### Actions to Achieve Objective:

- Collaborate with partners to acquire available land suitable for harbor of refuge development near Cross Village.
- Actively pursue state acquisition for the development of a state harbor near the Cross Village area within the next five to six years.
- Continue to upgrade existing harbors-of-refuge in accordance with established priorities.

#### State land management modification:

Continue to upgrade existing harbors of refuge in accordance with established priorities.

#### Criteria for Acquisition:

- Land is located near Cross Village and be suitable for a harbor of refuge.
- Land is adjacent to existing harbor-of-refuge and is required for expansion or upgrade of existing facilities to meet demand
- No viable governmental/non-profit to acquire site.

**Measurable Objective:** Provide access every five miles on the Great Lakes.

**Measurable Objective:** Provide access every mile on Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River from Lake Huron to Lake Erie. (PLMSAC request)

Justification: Michigan is rich in nearly 4,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline plus over 89 miles of connecting channel from Lake Huron to Lake Erie. These shorelines provide outstanding scenery, diverse coastal habitats, and recreational access to one of the world's greatest systems of freshwater seas.

Current Role of State Land: Provides public access sites along the shorelines of the Great Lakes and connecting channels from Lake Huron to Lake Erie.

Future Role of State Land: Great Lakes and connecting channel access points are needed to meet public recreation demands and uses such as motorized and non-motorized boating, fishing, swimming, and sightseeing. There is also increasing demand for these access sites to offer or be near public amenities like parking, picnic areas, restrooms, wayfinding signs and overnight accommodation. Neighboring communities will benefit from increased outdoor recreation and tourism as additional public access sites are secured.

Actions to Achieve Objectives:

- Waterways Commission prioritizes acquisition and development of access sites based upon boating demand, recreational resources, site characteristics and natural resources.
- Department identifies potential partners for highest priority sites and works with partners to prepare strategy for acquiring and developing access sites.

- Upgrade and expand existing boating access sites based upon criteria supported by the Waterways Commission to meet demand and best management practices.

#### **Metric for trails**

*With partners, complete ten priority connections as identified by the Michigan Snowmobile and Trails Advisory Council (MSTAC).*

The Michigan Snowmobile and Trails Advisory Council endorsed an action item in its Comprehensive Trail Plan to identify priority trail connections for completion in the next six years.

**Measurable Objective:** Designate public water trails including appropriate signage, amenities and promotion on 30 percent of Michigan's navigable waters, five connected lake systems, and 75 percent of the Great Lakes shoreline (Michigan Comprehensive Trail Plan)

Current Role of State Land: To provide water trail access points and supporting amenities on existing state land.

Future Role of State Land: To provide water trail access points and supporting amenities on existing state land and pursue additional water trail access points in the absence of local partners to connect to other water trails.

Actions to Achieve Objective:

- Inventory and analyze local planning efforts in identifying water trails.
- Collaborate with local partners to provide access points every five miles on identified water trails.
- Develop access/amenities on state owned land not currently developed to support identified water trails.
- Collaborate with local partners to acquire three to five sites within the next five to six years.

- Provide interpretation of natural and cultural features at appropriate access points.

**Measurable Objective:** In conjunction with partners provide a well-maintained, interconnected system of multi-use trails that are within five miles of 90 percent of Michigan's citizens. (DCTP)

Current Role of State Land: To provide 1,110 miles of linear trails throughout the state accommodating both motorized and non-motorized use. To provide 560 miles of forest pathways and 900 miles of state park pathways. (Michigan Comprehensive Trail Plan)

Future Role of State Land: To provide additional trail opportunities in collaboration with local partners.

Actions to Achieve Objective:

- Work with local partners to secure land through acquisition or easements for trail connections between individual linear trails and to link looped pathway systems.
- Work with local partners to secure land through acquisition or easements for trail connections between state linear trails, regional trail networks (county and local) and looped pathway systems.
- Collaborate with local partners to acquire land for priority linkages as identified in the Michigan Comprehensive Trail Plan,
- Link state park and recreation areas to linear trails in coordination with local partners
- Collaborate with local partners to identify and prioritize trail routes by region.
- Collaborate with local partners to interpret significant cultural and natural features along these trails.

**Measurable Objective:** Fill critical linkages to complete five (Great Lakes) lake-to-lake linear trails. (Lake-to-Lake Trail Plan) (Michigan Comprehensive Trail Plan)

Current Role of State Land: To provide approximately 550 miles of existing trails within the proposed five lake-to-lake linear trail system.

Future Role of State Land: To provide additional miles of trail along the five planned lake-to-lake trails in the absence of local partners.

Actions to Achieve Objective:

- Collaborate with local partners to identify gaps in the current system.
- Collaborate with local partners to secure three critical linkages for trail alignment within the next five to six years.

Criteria for Acquisition/ Securing Easements:

- Land is identified as a critical gap in the lake-to-lake linear trail system.
- Land is prioritized according to proximity to urban areas and population centers collaborating with local partners beginning with Route 1 in southern Michigan.
- No viable governmental/non-profit to acquire site.
- Collaborate with local partners to interpret significant cultural and natural features along these trails.

**Measurable Objective:** Fill critical linkages to complete a proposed north-south hike and bike trail system from Belle Isle to Wisconsin. (Governor Snyder's Initiative)

Current Role of State Land: To provide approximately 26 percent of the 924 miles of existing trails within the proposed Belle Isle to Ironwood hike and bike trail system.

Future Role of State Land: To provide 45 additional miles of trail to complete the proposed hike and bike trail system in the absence of local partners.

Actions to Achieve Objective:

- Collaborate with local partners to prioritize gaps in the current system.
- Collaborate with local partners to secure three critical linkages for trail alignment in the trail system within five to six years.
- Collaborate with local partners to interpret significant cultural and natural features along these trails.

Criteria for Acquisition/Securing Easements:

- Land is identified as a critical gap in the proposed trail system.
- Land is prioritized, collaborating with local partners.
- No viable governmental/non-profit to acquire site.

**Measurable Objective:** Develop an interconnected snowmobile trail system on secure permanent easements. (Michigan Comprehensive Trail Plan)

Current Role of State Land: To provide approximately 25 percent of the 6,500 miles of existing snowmobile trails.

Future Role of State Land: To provide permanent public easements on private lands in the absence of local partners.

Actions to Achieve Objective:

- Collaborate with local partners to identify and prioritize where temporary easements are located on private lands and where the gaps are.
- Collaborate with local partners to secure increase the number of permanent easements on private lands by 10 percent within the next five years.

State land management modification: Work to turn temporary easements into permanent easements.

Criteria for Acquisition/Securing Easements:

- Land is listed as a priority in completing a critical gap in the snowmobile trail system by local partners.
- Landowner is supportive of a permanent easement.
- No viable governmental/non-profit to secure permanent easement.

**Measurable Objective:** Create an interconnected system of equestrian trails in southeast Michigan by connecting existing looped routes. (Michigan Comprehensive Trail Plan)

Current Role of State Land: To provide 375 miles of designated equestrian trails.

Future Role of State Land: To provide additional miles of designated equestrian trails and additional equestrian campgrounds in the absence of local partners.

Actions to Achieve Objective:

- Collaborate with Equine Trailways Subcommittee and Michigan Snowmobile and Trails Advisory Committee to prioritize potential connections to existing trails and trail gaps as identified in the Michigan Comprehensive Trails Plan.
- Collaborate with local partners to inventory private land in desired locations for trail connections in the absence of public land.
- Collaborate with local partners to secure three critical segments of trail within the next six years.

Criteria for Acquisition/Securing Easements:

- Land is identified and prioritized as an ideal location for equestrian trails using criteria established by

Equine Trailways Subcommittee and Michigan Snowmobile and Trails Advisory Committee.

- Existing public land is not available in the locations desired.
- No viable governmental/non-profit to acquire site or community.

**Measurable Objective:** Provide at least 4,000 miles of safe and connected off-road vehicle (ORV) opportunities. (ORV Strategic Plan)

Current Role of State Land: To provide 1,750 miles of designated routes and trails statewide and 450 acres at Silver Lake State park as an ORV scramble area, 1,250 acres at St. Helens Motorsport Area and approximately 6,000 miles of Upper Peninsula forest roads.

Future Role of State Land: To provide additional ORV opportunities especially in southern Michigan in the absence of local partners.

Actions to Achieve Objective:

- Collaborate with local partners to identify and prioritize existing public land with ORV as a potential use.
- Collaborate with local partners and snowmobile groups to identify snowmobile routes on private lands and determine if ORV use is compatible.
- Identify ideal private lands for ORV development through our management planning process or as identified and prioritized by local user groups.
- Collaborate with local partners to increase permanent ORV easements by 10 percent within the next six years.

State land management modification: Explore permanent easements on private land.

**Measurable Objective:** Develop off-road bike connections to the state's extensive off-road multi-use recreation trail network to create better access for communities, neighborhoods and families. (DMCTP)

**Measurable Objective:** Complete the acquisition and development of the 400 undeveloped miles of the 1,150-mile North Country National Scenic Trail within the state. (DCTP)

### **Metric for urban recreation**

*Establish five signature urban parks with partners.*

This metric is a priority action identified in The Future of Michigan's Parks and Outdoor Recreation: A Report to Governor Rick Snyder, Sept. 23, 2012 by the Michigan State Parks and Outdoor Recreation Blue Ribbon Panel.

**Measurable Objective:** Use parks and recreation as a key tool for revitalizing Michigan's core urban areas by establishing four to five signature parks and integrating green infrastructure into Michigan's urban redesign and redevelopment efforts. (The Future of Michigan's Parks and Outdoor Recreation Report)

Current Role of State Land: To provide recreation opportunities in urban areas including downtown Detroit at Milliken State Park and Harbor, downtown Grand Rapids as urban trailheads, river access in Saginaw, lake access in Muskegon, marina in Bay City and marina in Marquette.

Future Role of State Land: To provide additional recreation opportunities in urban areas in collaboration with local partners.

State Land Management Modification: Improve recreation opportunities in urban areas.

#### Actions to Achieve Objective:

- Collaborate with local partners to inventory existing public lands within these urban cores to identify potential locations for a signature park and connectivity to neighborhoods.
- Collaborate with local partners to inventory private land available for purchase in desired locations for a park within each urban core in the absence of public land.
- Collaborate with local partners to acquire land for a signature park when existing public land is not available.

#### **Metric for urban recreation**

*Establish five signature urban parks with partners.*

This metric is a priority action identified in The Future of Michigan's Parks and Outdoor Recreation: A Report to Governor Rick Snyder, Sept. 23, 2012 by the Michigan State Parks and Outdoor Recreation Blue Ribbon Panel.

#### **Metric for diversity of recreational offerings**

*Increase the percent of citizen's satisfied with diversity of recreation opportunities provided in the state.*

The Department of Natural Resources will regularly conduct a survey of Michigan citizens to measure their use and enjoyment of Michigan's outdoor recreation resources. The baseline survey of Michigan residents was conducted in 2012 to inform the 2013-2017 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). Seventy-nine percent of the respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with the amount of outdoor recreation in Michigan.



## **Goal 2. Foster the Growth and Stability of Michigan's Land-Based Natural and Cultural Resource Economies**

### **Metric for forest products industry**

*Increase career-related forest products jobs by 10 percent.*

This is a goal established for the forest products industry and endorsed at the Governor's Forest Products Summit.

**Measurable Objective:** The Department will meet the regional timber harvest goals as established in the regional forest management plans. (New objective)

Justification: Accomplishing timber harvest goals as identified in the RSFMP's will assure sustainable production of forest products on state forest land as well as assist in meeting the goals established by the Timber Advisory Committee and the Governor's 2013 Timber Summit.

Current role of State Land:

- State forest land currently supplies more than 20 percent of the timber consumed by forest industry statewide. The economic impact of state timber varies by region. In some areas of Michigan timber from state lands provides a majority of the timber supply portfolio for the industry.
- In contrast to privately owned timberland, state forestland provides a stable supply of forest products to the market regardless of economic factors. In addition, state forestland is a primary source for the timber resources needed by various mills that require certified raw materials.
- Provide large contiguous blocks of professionally managed timber resources for the timber market.

Actions to Achieve the Objective:

- Prepare for harvest a minimum of 53,000 acres (approximately 700,000 to 750,000 cords) or a sustainable harvest as identified in the Regional State Forest Management Plans (RSFMPs) and other Forest Resource Division analyses
- Maximize additional salvage opportunities from state land without compromising other objectives or the long-term sustainability of timber resources
- Manage state forestlands to comply with forest certification standards in order to continue marketing sustainable forest products
- Assist in sustaining "working forests" by acquiring lands or rights in land that are under threat of being withdrawn from the Commercial Forest Act, subject to acquisition criteria.

### **Metric for mineral management**

*Increase the number of acres leased for mineral production and underground natural gas storage by 10 percent.*

While the oil and gas and mineral industries have not established measurable objectives for the growth of their industries, the DNR is interested in supporting this important natural resource industry as measured by increasing the number of acres of state land leased for mineral production, while still protecting the State's other natural resource values.

**Measurable Objective:** Hold regular oil and gas lease auctions to make leasable DNR managed public lands available for production.

Current role of state land: The DNR's Minerals Management Section (MMS) has responsibility for managing state-owned mineral rights in a manner that optimizes revenue for the people of the state, while also ensuring protection of the

natural resource values. While the DNR encourages the growth of Michigan's natural resource-based economy, the DNR also maintains a balance and does not take these responsibilities lightly.

- The DNR currently has mineral leases issued for the following industries:
  - Oil and Gas - 16,382 leases covering 1,634,068 acres.
  - Metallic Mineral – 122 leases covering 26,572 acres
  - Nonmetallic Mineral – 172 leases (including 33 to other units of government) covering 35,045 acres
  - Underground Natural Gas Storage - 92 leases covering 39,105 acres
- The DNR has facilitated the development of several underground natural gas storage sites where the Department manages the surface rights by exchanging the surface rights at the proposed facility site for other lands that benefit other management objectives.
- The DNR has granted hundreds of miles of oil and gas pipeline easements across the areas where it manages the surface rights. These easements facilitate the economic transport of oil and gas from the production sites to the processing facilities and on to the customers and range from flow lines that are a few inches in diameter up to major interstate distribution pipelines.

#### Leasing Process:

The DNR leases state lands when requested by the mineral industries. . After receiving a request to lease state lands, the parcels are reviewed by MMS staff to determine whether the parcels are available for leasing. If so, the parcels are reviewed by field staff (including wildlife and fisheries biologists, foresters, staff from the Parks and

Recreation Division and the state archaeologist) to determine the appropriate level of surface use for each parcel. On the basis of that field review, these lands are classified for leasing under one of the following categories:

- a) *Leasable Development* – Leasable mineral rights on which surface mineral exploration sites are available and allowed without additional restrictions after permits are obtained.
- b) *Leasable Development with Restriction* – Leasable mineral rights on which surface mineral exploration sites are available and allowed (after a permit is obtained) with specific additional lease restrictions due to environmental or other conditions on site (i.e. parcel near a recreation trail).
- c) *Leasable Nondevelopment* – Leasable mineral rights with no surface use or disturbance unless approved by lessor (i.e. lands within a state park).
- d) *Nonleasable* – Lands that will not be leased for mineral exploration, development or production (i.e. Great Lakes bottomlands).

During the leasing process, the Department sends out public notice to severed surface owners, township and county officials, and places a notice of the proposed leasing in a newspaper distributed in the county to be leased. As part of the public notice process, a notice of the proposed leasing is also placed on the Department calendar.

#### Fiscal Impact:

Revenue generated from state mineral leasing activity, including bonus, rent and royalty, plays a significant role for the Department and its programs, as well as local units of government, which benefits all of Michigan's citizens and visitors. In accordance with Michigan's Constitution and Natural Resources & Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (NREPA), the revenue has been primarily deposited into protected funds such as the

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF); the State Park Endowment Fund (SPEF), and the Game and Fish Protection Trust Fund (G&FPTF) accounts.

In that interest in the leasing of state-owned rights is subject to industry requests, annual revenue from the programs can vary greatly. Industry's interest in leasing is impacted by such matters as a product's market price, which can be volatile; available financing for capital improvements; newer technologies to enhance recovery, and the potential for new development. The latter's impact is reflected in the amount of revenue received in FY2010 when a new formation of interest spurred the largest oil and gas auction results in the history of the program. Conversely, the revenue received in FY2012 was substantially lower which is primarily reflective of the lowest average natural gas market price in the last 10 years; the average price was \$2.81 per thousand cubic feet (Mcf) compared to \$9.14 per Mcf in 2008.

Lease revenue for the past five years:

- FY2008 - \$101.1 million
- FY2009 - \$62.4 million
- FY2010 - \$225.3 million
- FY2011 - \$56 million
- FY2012 - \$43.7 million

Economic Impact of the Oil and Gas Industry in Michigan: (Source: "The Facts About Michigan's Oil and Gas Industry" published by the Michigan Oil and Gas Association)

- Providing more than 8,000 industry-related jobs.
- Contributed over \$1.25 billion in oil and gas income to the State of Michigan since 1927 in royalties, rentals and lease bonuses since 1927.
- Paid more than \$78 million in severance taxes and oil and gas fees to the State of Michigan annually

- Contributing millions of dollars in local property taxes on oil and gas wells, pipelines and surface facilities each year.
- Providing about \$7.2 million in privilege fees to the State annually.
- Providing a total value of \$27.125 billion in Michigan crude oil and natural gas production annually in recent years.
- Oil and gas is a \$4 billion industry in Michigan.
- Michigan currently produces about 22 percent of the natural gas the state uses. (Source: Michigan Public Service Commission)
- Michigan has the largest UNGS working capacity of any state, with over one trillion cubic feet. (Source: Michigan Public Service Commission)

Governor Initiative:

The Governor announced plans for the development of a Michigan Strategic Natural Gas Plan during his Nov. 28, 2012 special message to the Legislature on Energy and the Environment. The proposal involves utilizing natural gas production from state-owned minerals.

### **Metric for tourism**

*In partnership with Pure Michigan, increase the number of tourists to Michigan by 10 percent.*

A recent article in *Bridge Magazine* indicated that six of the top ten tourist attractions in Michigan are managed by the DNR (Holland, Grand Haven, Warren Dunes, and Muskegon State Parks, Island Lake Recreation Area and Mackinac Island) Public lands are also vital for trails of all kinds, from snowmobile to mountain bike. The DNR is an active partner with Pure Michigan. All of these factors reflect the important role that DNR-managed public lands play in Michigan's tourism industry and contribute to a growing tourism sector.

**Measurable Objective:** Three percent increase in tourism at historic parks.

Current Role of State Land: Significant historical and archeological sites exist on state land, as well as structures and cultural landscapes that represent broader aspects of Michigan's history, such as agriculture and education. In addition, state parks, forests and other categories of state land have become part of our collective history over the past 100-plus years.

Future Role of State Land: Essentially unchanged, though development of selected sites could change the relative visibility of cultural sites on state land.

Potential changes in state land management to meet outcome:

- Improve communication and coordination concerning known cultural sites on state land.
- Better integration of interpretation

**Measurable Objective:** Increase non-resident state park passes from 250,000 to 275,000. (DNR Scorecard)

Current Role of State Land: Michigan's State Parks act as a catalyst to attract out of state visitors and tourists, and provide a focal point for activities that drive the local economy.

Future Role of State Land: Continue to provide quality parks and recreation facilities showcasing the variety Michigan has to offer.

**Measurable Objective:** Increase overnight stays at marinas by 3 percent. Maintain the number of licensed Michigan Charter Boats above 500 statewide. (New objective)

Current Role of State Land: The state owns and/or manages 19 state harbors on the great lakes and connecting waters, providing a total of 6,454 slips.

Future Role of State Land: Continue to provide and maintain a safe, accessible and quality harbor system on the great lakes and connecting waters.

**Measurable Objective:** Increase the number of anglers who purchase a fishing license for the first time from 245,790 to 260,000. (DNR Scorecard)

**Measurable Objective:** Maintain the number of licensed Michigan Charter Boats above 500 statewide.

Role of Land: Contribute to the state's economy by providing access to the Great Lakes and inland lakes and streams. Recreational fisheries are a huge economic engine for the state and provide the largest and highest-value use of Michigan's aquatic resources. As documented in a preliminary U.S. Fish and Wildlife study, approximately 1.4 million Michigan residents and 347,000 nonresidents fished in state waters in 2011(USFWS 2011). These anglers fished more than 28.2 million days, generating a conservative direct economic net value of \$2.4 billion dollars to the state. In a separate 2013 study by the American Sportfishing Association, the overall annual value of sportfishing to Michigan's economy was estimated even higher at \$4.3 billion, with \$2.5 billion from retail sales, \$1.4 billion in wages and salaries, \$623 million in tax revenues, and the rest from various smaller sources. In addition, more than 38,000 jobs were attributable to Michigan's sportfishing industry. In this study, Michigan ranked fifth nationally with respect to angler expenditures following Florida, Texas, Minnesota and California.

Michigan is fortunate to have a thriving commercial fishery in Great Lakes waters in addition to robust sport fisheries. In 2011, commercial fisheries produced approximately 9.2

million pounds of fish valued at \$10.6 million. Almost two thirds of the landed value is harvested by tribal fishers; the remainder is harvested by state licensed fishers.

Wholesaling, processing and retailing produced an additional estimated \$10 million annually in economic benefit. The commercial fisheries provide employment for state-licensed and tribal fishers, as well as wholesalers, associated restaurants and other businesses.

**Current Role of State Land:** State land often provides the only access to inland lakes, small trout streams, large rivers, and to the Great Lakes through boat launches, carry on access, walk in access, fishing piers, and marinas. Michigan is truly a water wonderland with more than 11,000 lakes, 36,000 miles of rivers and streams, and 43 percent of the Great Lakes waters within its borders. In total, this represents more than 21 percent of the world's surface fresh water. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Fisheries Division is responsible for managing more fresh water than any other state, and these waters contain a variety of aquatic life, including 153 different species of fish. Unlike any other place in the U.S., if you are anywhere in Michigan, you're never more than six miles away from fishable water. These extensive public trust resources, in proximity to the large population base in Michigan and the Midwest, provide unmatched fishing opportunities and require state-of-the-art, scientifically-guided fisheries management to ensure their continued excellence.

**Future Role of State Land:** State land will continue to provide a vital role to ensure access to water to improve recreational opportunities and the quality of life to Michigan residents and tourists. Lakes and streams with public access provides significantly to local economies. Anglers spend on average \$780 per acre of water on inland lakes. Inland trout streams provide 470 angler days per mile, and

Great Lakes migratory streams provide 4,298 angler days per mile.

**Measurable Objective:** Increase the number of new hunters who purchase a hunting license from 99,361 to 110,000 each year. (DNR Scorecard)

**Measurable Objective:** Increase participation in non-consumptive wildlife-based outdoor recreation by 10 percent (WLD GPS).

**Role of Land:** Fishing, hunting and wildlife viewing directly contribute to the state's economy. State residents and non-residents spent \$5.1 billion on wildlife-associated recreation (fishing, hunting and wildlife-watching activities) in 2006. Hunters contribute \$916 million annually to the state's economy. On average, every hunter in Michigan spends about \$1,200 per year on trip-related equipment and expenditures. There are an estimated 32,000 non-residents who hunt in Michigan – four percent of the state's hunters. Wildlife watching contributes \$1.6 billion annually to the state's economy. On average, each wildlife watcher in Michigan spends about \$485 per year on trip-related equipment and expenditures (USFWS 2006). In addition, there are an estimated 20,000 jobs that are supported by all hunting activities in Michigan (AFWA 2006).

**Current Role of State Land:** Michigan is a destination for woodcock and ruffed grouse hunting. Over 300 commercial hunting guides use DNR administered land for commercial guiding. Access to state-owned land accounted for approximately \$50 million in annual economic value to Michigan deer hunters. The average per-acre value of publicly accessible hunting land is greatest in the Southern Lower Peninsula, where public access is scarce and the majority of hunters reside (Knoche and Lupi 2012). An estimated 49 percent of hunters use public land for hunting (16percent public land only, 33 percent public and private land) which includes non-state public land (USFWS 2006).

Actions to Achieve Objective:

- Conduct gap analysis to identify current and desired wildlife-based opportunities
- Collaborate with local partners to pursue available land
- Expand Hunter Access Program (HAP)
- Expand wildlife-based recreation opportunities on other (non-DNR) state land
- Consolidate state ownership within project boundaries
- Actively pursue state acquisition of three to five new projects within eight years

Givens:

- For lands purchased or managed with restricted funds (license fee and Pittman-Robertson Act funds), all economic benefits must be incidental and compatible to addressing wildlife needs.

**Measurable Objective:** Implement a marketing strategy that highlights Michigan unique natural and cultural assets in partnership with Pure Michigan. (New objective)

### **Goal 3: Protect Natural Functions and Natural and Cultural Resources**

#### **Metric for cover types and population goals**

*Double the number of fish and wildlife habitat projects accomplished with partners.*

Fish and wildlife habitat projects completed with partners, are critical to the long-term health of DNR-managed state land. One of the outcomes from the passage of the proposed hunting and fishing license package will be additional grant dollars directed to habitat improvement projects by partners.

**Measurable Objective:** Achieve habitat management goals for grassland, mesic conifer, aspen cover types and wetlands to assist in achieving the goals as stated in the Upper Mississippi & Great Lakes Region Joint Venture (waterfowl), Michigan Pheasant Restoration Initiative, American Woodcock Conservation Plan and North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

Justification: All these cover types have declined significantly in Michigan, mostly due to the conversion to agriculture, settlement, succession to shrublands and/or older forests, and fire suppression. These cover types provide corridors of movement for species affected by climate change. The majority of known rare species occurrences are also associated with these cover types.

Role of land: Large open-grassland complexes provide unique kinds of food, cover, protection from predators, and breeding habitat. Although size requirements vary by species, many species will not inhabit patches until minimum area thresholds are reached. Many of Michigan's featured species use or depend upon large open-grassland complexes including the bobolink, ring-necked pheasant,

sharp-tailed grouse, eastern meadowlark and upland sandpiper.

Many of Michigan's featured species use or depend upon young aspen forests including the: woodcock; elk; golden-winged warbler; moose; ruffed grouse; snowshoe hare; white-tailed deer; and turkey. Aspen provides essential nutrition or generates necessary vegetative structures to meet their wildlife history requirements.

Conifer provides unique sources of food, nest sites and thermal/escape cover that are essential to meet the life history requirements for wildlife species. Many of Michigan's featured species use or depend upon conifer forests including the: marten; blackburnian warbler; gray jay; moose; goshawk; red crossbill; snowshoe hare; spruce grouse; and white-tailed deer.

The mixed wooded openland habitat (barrens or savanna) is a fire-dependent system. This habitat provides habitat for both prairie and forest species. Many of Michigan's featured species use or depend upon mixed wooded openland (savannas and barrens) including the: Karner blue butterfly; red-headed woodpecker; bluebird; elk; turkey, and white-tailed deer.

The juxtaposition of forests or shrub cover with wetlands provides a unique combination of habitat characteristics essential to meet the seasonal or life-stage needs for wildlife. Many of Michigan's featured species use or depend upon forested wetlands including the: beaver; moose; red-headed woodpecker, red-shouldered hawk, and wood duck.

The marsh cover type provides a unique combination of habitat characteristics essential to meet the seasonal or life-stage needs for many species. Many of Michigan's featured species use or depend upon marsh including the: American bittern, eastern fox snake and mallard.

Current role of State land: The active timber management program on state lands promotes balanced age-class distributions and habitat for a variety of species. Decisions involving within stand species diversity are determined by all co-managing Divisions through the compartment review process or local management plans. The age class distribution goals and cover type objectives for state forests are identified within the Regional State Forest Management Plans.

Habitat management activities on state game and wildlife areas focus on enhancing or sustaining populations of featured species. In general, habitat management is directed towards providing for the needs of featured species. Specific practices such as providing food, water and nesting sites are implemented to address limiting factors in a given area. Habitat management activities usually occur within grasslands, savannas, forests or wetlands.

**Actions to Achieve Objective:**

- Manage habitat to provide 100,000 pheasant hunters a sustainable harvest of 150,000 pheasants in Michigan's traditional pheasant range.
- Provide habitat to maintain 420,000 breeding mallards in Michigan when Great Lakes water levels are near their long-term average.
- Promote USDA Farm Bill programs (Conservation Reserve Program, Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program, Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Wetlands Reserve Program, Forest Stewardship Program, Forest Legacy Program, Healthy Forest Reserve Program) on private lands.
- Promote US Fish and Wildlife Service Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program work on private lands with forested wetland restoration or enhancement potential.

- Continue partnerships with wetland conservation partners (Ducks Unlimited, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, US Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, land conservancies, etc.).
- Focus efforts in priority geographic areas as identified in Joint Venture and the Wildlife Action Plan.
- Focus efforts on ownership or dedication with the greater degree of permanence (permanent protection is highest priority).
- Encourage aspen harvesting on private, commercial, federal, state and municipal lands.
- Acquire 1,000 acres of high-quality grassland habitat for pheasants,
- Acquire 1,000 acres of waterfowl habitat.
- Acquire/lease 1,000 acres of winter deer habitat in the Upper Peninsula.
- Acquire/lease 2,000 acres of corridors of highest priority connectors identified in the Midwest Green Infrastructure Plan being developed by The Conservation Fund (available Fall 2013).

**Measurable Objective:** Achieve population goals for state and federally-listed non-game species as defined in recovery plans including those for the Karner Blue Butterfly, Kirkland's Warbler and Piping Plover.

**Justification:** All of the federally endangered or threatened species have been listed under the federal Endangered Species Act due to their declining populations. Recovery is the process used to restore threatened and endangered species to the point that protection under the Endangered Species Act is no longer needed.



Current role of land: Depending upon the listed species, provide essential habitat components that are necessary for species survival.

Role of State land: Manage, maintain and restore existing and suitable habitat for listed species on state land as described in the species recovery plans.

Action to Achieve Objective:

- Identify and acquire/lease 1,000 acres of land acquisitions and conservation easements for key State and Federal Threatened and Endangered Species, including but not limited to Mitchell's satyr, Karner blue butterfly, piping plover, Eastern massasauga and Indiana bat.

**Measurable Objective:** Double the number of acres involved in habitat partnership projects in order to meet the habitat goals identified in the Wildlife Division's GPS, Fisheries Division's 2013-2017 *Charting the Course* Strategic Plan, and specific species plans.

Justification: Solid working relationships with partners are critical to the DNR developing and attaining its natural resources goals. The DNR continues to work with many state and federal agencies, universities and conservation organizations to cement that foundation. Habitat projects-completed by partners are critical to the long-term health of the habitat located on DNR managed state land. One of the outcomes of the passage of an increase in hunting license fees is additional grant dollars directed to partners for habitat improvement projects.

Role of land: Efforts to implement habitat management are generally more successful with partner support and collaboration.

Current role of State land: Work with new and existing partners to implement habitat management projects across state land.

Action to Achieve Objective:

- Develop and maintain a list of partners along with their specialized skills and equipment.
- Coordinate with partner volunteer programs where appropriate.

### **Metric for healthy forest**

#### *Maintain annual forest certification*

A variety of age classes and tree types needs to be actively managed in order to promote vigorous and healthy forests, reduce the impacts of large scale outbreaks from some major forest pests, and minimize the growth and impacts of catastrophic disturbances. Certification substantiates that the DNR is appropriately managing public lands to ensure healthy forests.

**Measurable Objective:** Pursue and maintain third-party certification to ensure sustainable healthy forests.

Justification: Forest certification promotes the sustainable management of forest ecosystems resulting in healthy forests. A matrix of forest age classes needs to be actively managed in order to promote vigorous and healthy forests, preclude the impacts of large scale outbreaks from some major forest pests, and minimize the growth and impacts of catastrophic disturbances.

Actions to Achieve the Objective:

- Continued investment in capital and human resources for operational and tactical forest planning and monitoring, including maintaining and updating inventory systems, inventory data collection,

inventory analyses, and professional multi-disciplinary review of silvicultural prescriptions.

- Internal and external auditing of the effectiveness and conformance of operational policies and procedures and forest management practices with national forest certification standards.
- Annual review of the results of effectiveness monitoring, and subsequent and necessary adaptation and revision of policy, procedure and management direction.
- Annual and contingency training for resource professionals on traditional and emerging issues in forest health and associated updates in silvicultural practices and activities.
- Reporting of signs and symptoms of forest health issues by resource professionals in the field to forest health professionals in a timely and organized manner.
- Providing public outreach by forestry professionals on forest health issues and the advantages of professional management of forest lands via press releases, media interviews, distribution of literature, and public speaking engagements.

### **Metric for diversity**

*Achieve FSC and SFI standards for biodiversity management within state forests.*

Annual audits are conducted on state-managed forests to ensure that the state forests are managed to meet the requirements of forest certification. Certification requires integrated management of biological, social and economic factors.

**Measurable Objective:** Maintain or enhance quality of natural communities.

### **Metric for protection of cultural resources**

*Complete cultural features spatial comprehensive database.*

A comprehensive database of known cultural features on state lands needs to be completed to advance the protection of Michigan's cultural resources. This metric reflects an important first step in meeting the outcome of future generations having an opportunity to experience Michigan's natural and cultural resources.

**Measurable Objective:** Work with partners to develop a protection strategy for 10 critical culturally significant rare and unique places in state parks. (Parks and Recreation Division Strategic Plan and Governor's Blue Ribbon Panel on State Parks and Outdoor Recreation)

Current Role of State Land: To protect existing natural and cultural features located on state land and provide associated recreation opportunities.

Future Role of State Land: Protect additional significant natural and cultural resources associated with diverse and adaptable recreation opportunities in the absence of local partners.

Actions to Achieve Objective:

- Identify naturally and culturally significant lands not currently protected.
- Establish and maintain a prioritized database of private lands, land owners and willing sellers of significant land based on the established criteria listed below.
- Use the management plan process to protect sensitive areas from inappropriate development and uses.
- Collaborate with local partners to protect 10 sites within the next five years.

**Measurable Objective:** Protect and conserve all significant natural and cultural features within state parks. (Parks and Recreation Division Strategic Plan and Governor's Blue Ribbon Panel on State Parks and Outdoor Recreation).

Role of State Land: To protect existing natural and cultural features located on state land.

Actions to Achieve Objective:

- Use General Management Plans to protect sensitive areas from inappropriate development and uses.
- Collaborate with local partners to actively pursue acquisition of identified priority lands.
- Actively pursue the acquisition of identified priority lands for the state in the absence of local partners.

**Measurable Objective:** Develop a comprehensive database of known cultural features on state land.

Role of Land: While every archaeological site or historic structure on the land is unique, they contribute in varying degrees to our understanding of the past. Knowing what resources exist, and what their relative importance is, allows better judgments to be made about levels of protection and about balancing competing demands for use of land.

Acquisition Criteria: This objective is primarily concerned with protecting and managing resources on land acquired under other criteria. Acquisition would be considered to complete an important site already in state ownership.

Actions to Achieve Objective:

- Review and integrate existing surveys
- Identify priority areas for further archaeological and/or historical research.

## **Metric for protection of aquatic resources**

*Increase from a baseline established in 2013, the miles of corridors under active management for each aquatic habitat classification.*

Healthy aquatic habitats depend on the use of the land and how water travels through the landscape. Priority watersheds will be managed through DNR and partnership initiatives to maintain and restore aquatic habitats and their connectivity.

**Measurable Objective:** Develop a strategy using current GIS-based classification systems to protect represented river, lake, and Great Lakes coastal habitats in each region by 2015.

**Measurable Objective:** Conserve and manage aquatic species and their habitats as identified in *Charting the Course*, Fisheries Division strategic plan.

Justification: Michigan's 11,000 lakes, 36,000 miles of rivers and streams, and shoreline along four of the five Great Lakes contain a variety of aquatic habitats and associated species. These habitats represent a large extent of the biological diversity found across northern North America. The mission of the DNR's Fisheries Division includes the protection and enhancement of the habitats upon which all forms of aquatic life depend. Healthy and diverse aquatic habitats support healthy and self-sustaining communities of plants and animals.

As residential development increases, it is not unusual to see greater nutrient inflow and physical alteration of aquatic habitats along lakes, rivers, and streams. Protecting aquatic habitat not only benefits fish and other aquatic species, but also provides human benefits such as clean water, reduced erosion to property, and enhanced quality of life. Therefore, the DNR aims to acquire priority aquatic habitat to ensure

continued benefits for both Michigan's aquatic resources and state residents.

**Role of Land:** Both natural and human features on the landscape determine the hydrology, water quality, and temperature of aquatic systems, which in turn determines the aquatic communities that can live in our lakes and streams. The type and quality of lakes and streams can change with as little as 10 percent hard surface development (i.e. roof tops, parking lots, and roads) in the watershed. Maintaining representative examples of our aquatic habitat types throughout the state will help maintain species diversity with changing development patterns and climate change.

**Role of State Land:** Northern Michigan lakes and streams are better protected against future development and climate change because open and forested land has not been significantly developed. There remains significant opportunity in southern Michigan to protect lake, stream, and Great Lake habitats types through land protection.

**Action to Achieve Objective:**

- Use Michigan Stream Classification system to identify representative stream types and identify high priority areas for each region.
- Finish Michigan lakes and Great Lake Coastal habitat classification systems for Michigan and identify high priority areas for each region.
- Conduct gap analyses in high priority stream, lake, and Great Lakes coastal areas to identify land protection needs.

## **Acquisition and Disposal Approach and Criteria**

In response to the question “what public lands should the DNR manage,” the Strategy describes the process the DNR will utilize going forward to balance the state's portfolio of public lands.

The DNR continuously engages in acquisition, exchanges or disposals of land to balance the DNR's public land ownership to meet its diverse mission. To guide the DNR's public land ownership, a new strategy will be used for both acquisitions and disposal of state lands. The intent of this new approach is to refocus ownership on priority areas, adapt to changing demands, and move toward greater efficiency and effectiveness in land management.

Increasing efficiencies in state land management is especially important. The pattern and distribution of ownership and land use greatly impacts the management of natural resources, land management options, and ecological function and processes. This new strategic direction is intended to significantly reduce staff time spent on land management issues, while extending natural resource protections and high quality access opportunities for public outdoor recreation. Consolidated state lands also provide benefits to the public including reducing the risk of trespass on public lands, avoiding shooting safety zone violations and enhancing resource management.

The new strategic direction will be implemented in a four-phase approach:

### **Phase 1: Identify State Lands for Disposal**

The DNR will identify lands for potential disposal under five considerations:

- 1) Lands that are either 200 acres or less and do not adjoin other DNR-managed public lands or the irregular shape of their boundary makes them

difficult to administer. These lands have been mapped and total approximately 240,000 acres.

- 2) Lands lacking public access.
- 3) Lands nominated by field land managers because of concerns with management effectiveness or efficiencies.
- 4) Lands that were identified as available for acquisition by conservation partners in the 2008 land consolidation effort but were not acquired
- 5) Large blocks of land would be made available for exchange only with other similar large blocks of lands. This would offer the opportunity to consolidate state land ownership and result in private land owners consolidating their ownership. These exchanges must be beneficial to the state and comply with the Strategy.

These acres will be reviewed by the DNR, local units of government and the public on a county-by-county basis utilizing criteria that recognize the outcomes, metrics and measurable objectives identified in this plan.

Evaluation criteria may include the following:

- Pertinence to the Department's mission and desired outcomes;
- Pertinence to the Strategies outcomes, metrics and measurable objectives;
- Presence or absence of significant ecological features, recreation facilities or activities or regional economic opportunities;
- Other relevant natural resource, public recreation, and cultural resource values;
- An exchange or sale of these lands will result in an improvement in the location or pattern of state ownership and will provide for greater natural resource, ecological or outdoor recreation values.

- The disposal of the land would result in increased efficiency of land administration,
- The natural resource, ecological or public outdoor recreation values of the land could be conserved and utilized as well or better if administered by another agency or owner.

Based upon the review, parcels will be identified as surplus to the DNR's needs.

### **Phase 2: Focused Boundaries**

Once the review have been completed and surplus lands have been identified, the DNR will establish updated project boundaries for state forests, state game areas, state wildlife areas, state recreation areas, and state parks. In some cases, a significant number of private inholdings will then be outside of the boundaries. In other cases, boundaries will be expanded to reflect priority acquisitions, especially in Southern Michigan.

### **Phase 3: Disposal or Acquisition of Identified Lands**

#### **Disposal**

An important component of this new strategic direction is to make effective use of those lands that are determined to be surplus to public needs. Conveyance of these parcels may be conducted in a manner that 1) provides for their continued protection of important natural or cultural resource or recreation values where warranted; 2) provides a means to purchase or exchange for more desirable replacement lands; or 3) supports local economic activities.

Lands identified and approved for disposal will be made available to local units of government, alternative conservation owner, for exchange or to the general public.

## Acquisition and Consolidation Priorities

The land acquisition strategy and the consolidation of State ownership are critical tools in increasing efficiencies in public land management. The pattern and distribution of ownership and land use greatly affects the ability to sustain natural resources, land management options, and ecological function and processes. Rather than increasing the burden of land management, the targeted acquisitions that employ these strategies significantly reduce staff time that is spent on land management issues, while extending natural resource protections and high quality opportunities for public outdoor recreation. The benefits of these strategies include:

- Protect and improve existing public land ownership function
- Increase public recreational opportunities on contiguous blocks of land
- Increase timber management potential
- Significantly reduce the need for private property line establishment/surveys for timber sales and other forest treatments, freeing up foresters to mark timber
- Prevent illegal trespass on State lands
- Prevent loss of hunting lands due to shooting safety zone encroachment
- Reduce the need to monitor public/private property lines
- Reduce private access easement needs/requests
- Reduce public/private land recreational use conflicts
- Prevent habitat fragmentation and habitat loss

Generally private land holdings within the public lands administered by the Department make it more difficult to carry out management for natural resource conservation as well as make it more difficult for the general public to use those lands for natural resource-oriented outdoor recreation. Therefore, both the recreational users and the

resource managers benefit if the public lands comprise a solid block.

## General Consolidation Acquisition

Priorities are:

- Private holdings within State Park boundaries;
- Private holdings within State Game, Wildlife, and Recreation Area, or State Forest boundaries;
- Private holdings that contain unique, critical, or at risk natural features that cannot be protected by other means provided in State and Federal laws;
- Private holdings that would provide recreational trail connectors;
- Private holdings that would provide public access to Michigan's waters, where access is not adequate.

Within the category of Private Inholdings, the acquisition priorities are generally:

- Private inholdings that the acquisition of which would have a positive impact on conservation, recreation or cultural values.
- Private holdings that the acquisition of which would provide or enhance public access to existing public lands and/or bodies of water where access is not sufficient.
- Public inholdings that the acquisition of which would have a positive effect on the efficient and effective management of existing public lands.

## Access to Michigan's Waters

Priorities are:

- Boating and fishing access to lakes: Provide public access on all Michigan lakes larger than 100 acres.

- Access to lakes less than 100 acres in size that provide unique recreational or natural resource opportunities.
- General boating and fishing access to rivers: Provide at least one public access every 10 miles on priority rivers and streams.
- Provide access to the Great Lakes every five miles.
- Fishing access to Michigan's quality fishing streams and rivers: Provide at least one public access on every mile of Michigan's quality fishing streams and rivers.

### Geographic Priorities

The total number of potential outdoor recreation users is highest in Michigan's southern Lower Peninsula. However, the proportion of lands available to the public for outdoor recreation is lowest in the southern Lower Peninsula and increases considerably to the north.

In most cases the General Acquisition Priorities are adequate to guide the Department in acquisition decisions regardless of where the opportunities occur in the State. However, when acquisition opportunities are found to be relatively equal under the General Acquisition Priorities, as a general rule, Acquisition Priorities by Geographic Region of the State are:

- 1) Southern Lower Peninsula
- 2) Northern Lower Peninsula
- 3) Upper Peninsula

While these geographic priorities apply to most aspects of the Department's lands, specific restricted funds, such as the Deer Range Improvement Fund, are focused toward the acquisition of important deer habitat components such as winter deer yard areas, especially in the Upper Peninsula.

### Willing Seller

Actual acquisitions and land exchanges are always dependent on the Department working with a private landowner who is willing to sell or exchange their lands. The opportunity to acquire new land is therefore based on the availability of the land, the location of the land, and the availability of appropriate funding being available in a timely and flexible manner.

### Phase 4: Maintain an Up-to-Date Public Land Base

In compliance with Act 240 of 2012, after six years the DNR and its partners will formally review the strategy considering changing land ownership and management priorities. On an on-going basis, the DNR and its partners will evaluate its land holdings, offering for sale or transfer those that support local public priorities. This will be a dynamic process to continuously review as opportunities that result in a public benefit become available. This continuous process will assist in informing the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund acquisitions and the utilization of other acquisition funding sources.

### Public Process:

Local units of government, regional governments, the private sector and the public have opportunities to be involved in the acquisition and disposal process.

Specifically, these opportunities include:

- Review and comment on criteria for disposal of lands as identified in the Strategy.
- Legislative review of all land acquisition or disposals at least 30 days before acquiring or disposal of lands.
- Local unit of government review on all proposed land acquisitions.
- Opportunity for public comment on all proposed land acquisition and disposals at a Natural Resources Commission Meeting one month prior to the potential actions.

- A posting on the DNR website for at least 30 days on the proposed acquisition or disposal to allow for public comment.

## Primary Land Management Tools

State parks and recreation areas, state game and wildlife areas, state forests and state fisheries are guided by management plans. The following provides background on those plans and planning efforts.

**State Parks and Recreation Areas:** The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Parks & Recreation Division (PRD) uses General Management Plans as long-range planning documents for state park and recreation areas. This is a comprehensive planning process based on the National Park Service “General Management Plan” process and adopted by the Department in 2004. Management planning is a defined strategic process within the PRD Strategic Plan (2009). The guidance for the General Management Plan stems from the mission statement of the Department and the Parks and Recreation Division’s mission to “acquire, protect, and preserve the natural and cultural features of Michigan’s unique resources, and to provide access to land and water based public recreation and educational opportunities.” Management plans also take into account other department planning documents and directives as appropriate.

A General Management Plan considers a park’s importance in terms of natural, cultural and historic resources, and recreational and educational opportunities. The management planning process identifies the legal parameters that PRD must be responsive to and includes a thorough analysis of the park, community, and regional resources, and review of the current land ownership and NRC dedicated boundary. A key aspect of the planning process is the development of a Management Zone Plan,

which reflects the resource protection goals and recreation development opportunities for different areas within each park. For each management zone identified, individual long-range (10-year) action goals are developed.

Key to the management plan process is active involvement of an internal planning team representing different areas of expertise; stakeholders (including user groups, Friends groups, local and federal government entities, tribal organizations and economic development/ tourism organizations) and the general public. Final approval of the plan rests with the Director of the DNR, with a recommendation to approve from the Michigan State Parks Advisory Committee.

**State Game and Wildlife Areas:** The purpose of wildlife project areas is to provide habitat for wildlife populations and public lands for hunting and trapping. Master plans describe the desired future conditions of wildlife areas (for example, in the thumb area of Michigan the desired condition in state game areas is grasslands for pheasants.) and set goals to improve wildlife habitat and the infrastructure for wildlife-related recreational activities. These plans ensure that at any given time, project area managers have the guidance to set management direction, establish operational priorities, and conduct work. The department uses featured species to focus habitat management, monitor its effectiveness, and communicate our accomplishments. Habitat on wildlife areas is managed to provide sufficient numbers of the targeted featured species to provide hunting opportunities or meet delisting criteria. The department is in the process of developing master plans for each project area and will update these every 10 years. This work is funded by a Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act grant.

**Lands for Angler Opportunity and Habitat Protection:**  
Statewide angler opportunity and habitat protection goals



are provided in Fisheries Division's Strategic Plan "Charting the Course". More specific goals are established for the Great Lakes and inland waters. Fish community and habitat objectives are established for lakes Superior, Michigan, Huron, and Erie through collaborative efforts under the Great Lakes Fishery Commission. These goals are also discussed with constituents through Great Lake Citizen Fishery Advisory Committees. Goals for inland lakes are established through Fisheries Division's "Conservation Guidelines for Michigan Lakes and Associated Natural Resources. Status of the Fisheries Reports establishes management actions for both inland lakes and small streams, and River Assessment Reports provide management direction for major watersheds throughout the state. The Coldwater and Warm water Resource Steering Committees provide stakeholders an opportunity to provide input on inland lake and stream management goals.

**State Forests:** The DNR uses a hierarchical, geographic planning framework to coordinate planning activities and guide operational decisions for state forest management. That framework includes a strategic state-level plan (2008

Michigan State Forest Management Plan, or SFMP), three (soon to be approved) operational Regional State Forest Management Plans (RSFMP), and tactical forest management unit-level planning (The aggregate of all forest prescriptions from compartment reviews, which constitute the annual work plan and represent the tactical level of planning for state forest operations).

The SFMP and, more specifically, the three RSFMPs, take strategic direction in the form of goals and objectives from other key DNR planning efforts, to better integrate and guide management of state forest land. These other planning documents include, but are not limited to:

- Michigan's Wildlife Action Plan;
- Master plans for wildlife areas located within the state forest;
- Pigeon River Country Concept of Management;
- Strategy for Kirtland's Warbler Habitat Management;
- Michigan Deer Management Plan;
- River assessment and river management plans;
- Natural River plans;
- Michigan State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan; and
- Michigan Off-Road Vehicle Plan
- Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy.

Each of these plans incorporate specific DNR division goals and objectives into an integrated management approach and provides more explicit planning direction and guidelines for specific resource areas. Together, these pieces create a comprehensive state forest management program.

### **Real Estate Tools**

As a result of land ownership providing a long term and reliable resource that permits the Department to effectively and efficiently carry out the activities that it needs to with limited inefficiencies and maximum flexibility, the Department has relied upon land ownership to further its mission. It is important for decision makers to be able to select from the available real estate tools in order to further the Department's mission. The following is an overview of available real estate tools:

- **Fee simple:** Ownership of real estate in which the owner has the right to control, use, and transfer the property at will.
- **Rights that are less than fee simple**
- **Easements:** A limited right to make use of a property that is owned by another, does not convey a right to possess the land. Traditional easements

include access, pipelines, roadways, driveways, utility lines, flowage, etc.

- **Conservation Easements:** A restriction on land preventing development on the property in order to retain its natural condition. The restriction will remain on the property for all subsequent property owners.
- **Profits (eg. Timber Leases):** A nonpossessory interest in land similar to the better-known easement, which gives the holder the right to take natural resources such as petroleum, minerals, timber, and wild game from the land of another.
- **Mineral rights:** The right of the owner of the mineral estate to exploit, mine, and/or produce any or all of the minerals lying below the surface of the property.
- **Restrictive Covenants:** A legal obligation imposed in a deed whereby the landowner promises to not to do something. Such restrictions “run with the land” and are enforceable on subsequent buyers of the property.
- **Deed Restrictions:** When the Department sells land it can record a restriction on the deed which will place a legal limitation on the use of the land.
- **Land Division Splits:** When the Department sells land it can retain splits in order to reduce the likelihood that the land being sold can be split into smaller lots.
- **Contractual Relationships**
- **Lease:** A contract allowing the possession of another’s property for a specific timeframe.
- **Land Contract:** A contract between a seller and buyer of real property in which the seller agrees to sell the property for an agreed-upon purchase price and the buyer pays the seller in installments.

Under a land contract, the seller retains the legal title to the property, while permitting the buyer to take possession.

**Right of First Refusal:** A contractual right that gives the holder the option to enter into a real estate transaction with the owner under specified terms, before the owner can enter into a transaction with a third party.

**Life Lease:** A lease that ends with the death(s) of the lessee(s). This real estate tool is useful when acquiring land from landowners that live on a desired property. In this situation, the purchaser would acquire the property subject to a life lease that is reserved by the seller. The purchase price is usually adjusted to compensate for the expected term of the life lease. The seller/lessee has possession of the property until their passing, at which time possession transfers to the landowner. This arrangement is beneficial for the seller because it gives them immediate income, lets them continue to possess a property, and it helps them to control the disposition of their estate.

## **Payments in Lieu of Tax**

To provide a source of revenue for local units of government, the Department of Treasury (Treasury) issues payments in lieu of tax (PILT) to counties and townships on all state owned lands administered by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). No other state agency makes a PILT payment to local units. PILT provides payment in three primary categories: tax reverted lands, purchased lands, and commercial forest lands. The payment made to the local units of government by Treasury is dependent upon which of these categories the land was acquired.

**Tax Reverted Lands:** Prior to PA 123 of 1999, all lands that went into foreclosure due to delinquent taxes reverted to the State of Michigan and fell under the administration of the DNR. The DNR retains 3.4 million acres of land with tax reverted status. By law, the PILT payment for lands within this category is set at \$2 per acre. This payment is issued from the General Fund as appropriated by the Michigan

Legislature and is issued to the County for distribution of 50 percent to the County General Fund and 50 percent to the appropriate Township General Fund.

**Purchased Lands:** For all lands purchased by the DNR, Treasury receives a billing statement from each local taxing jurisdiction which provides the amount that is due. Assessments for school districts, community colleges, libraries, etc. are paid from the School Aid Fund. The Department administers 1.2 million acres of purchased lands. The PILT payment on lands purchased with Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund is paid entirely through the Trust Fund including the assessments for school districts, community college, libraries, etc. The PILT payment on all other purchased lands is funded 50 percent from the General Fund as appropriated by the Michigan Legislature and 50 percent from restricted funds.

**Commercial Forest Lands:** Private lands enrolled in the Commercial Forest Act (CFA) program are not subject to ad valorem taxes. The CFA program is a tax incentive to private landowners to manage and harvest their timber and provide public access. Private landowners are subject to an annual payment of \$1.25 per acre. Treasury matches the landowner payment of \$1.25 per acre with the payment made from of the General Fund. Treasury paid more than \$2.7 million on 2.225 million acres of land currently enrolled in the CFA.

All PILT payments issued by Treasury to local units are subject to spending appropriation by the State Legislature. Treasury is not authorized to make payment until it has been appropriated by the Legislature. For the past few years the Legislature has not provided full or timely appropriations resulting in reduced and late payments to local units of government.

From 2008 to 2012 tax years, state PILT payments to local units for properties purchased by the Department grew from

about \$7.665 million to about \$8.620 million. On a per-acre basis, payments grew 10.4 percent. Payments for tax-reverted "swampland" parcels, payments grew from \$7.071 million to \$7.072 million. The payment per acre remained at \$2. Overall state payments for purchased and tax-reverted land increase 6 percent on a per-acre basis. During the 2009, 2010, and 2011 tax years, the Legislature under-appropriated PILT and as a result payments were pro-rated.

The taxable value for privately owned land in Michigan dropped by over 14 percent from 2008 to 2012. The value of state purchased lands changes according to the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which increased every year except for one over the past decade. This means that state land provides a counter-cyclical revenue source for local governments with state lands.

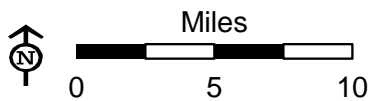
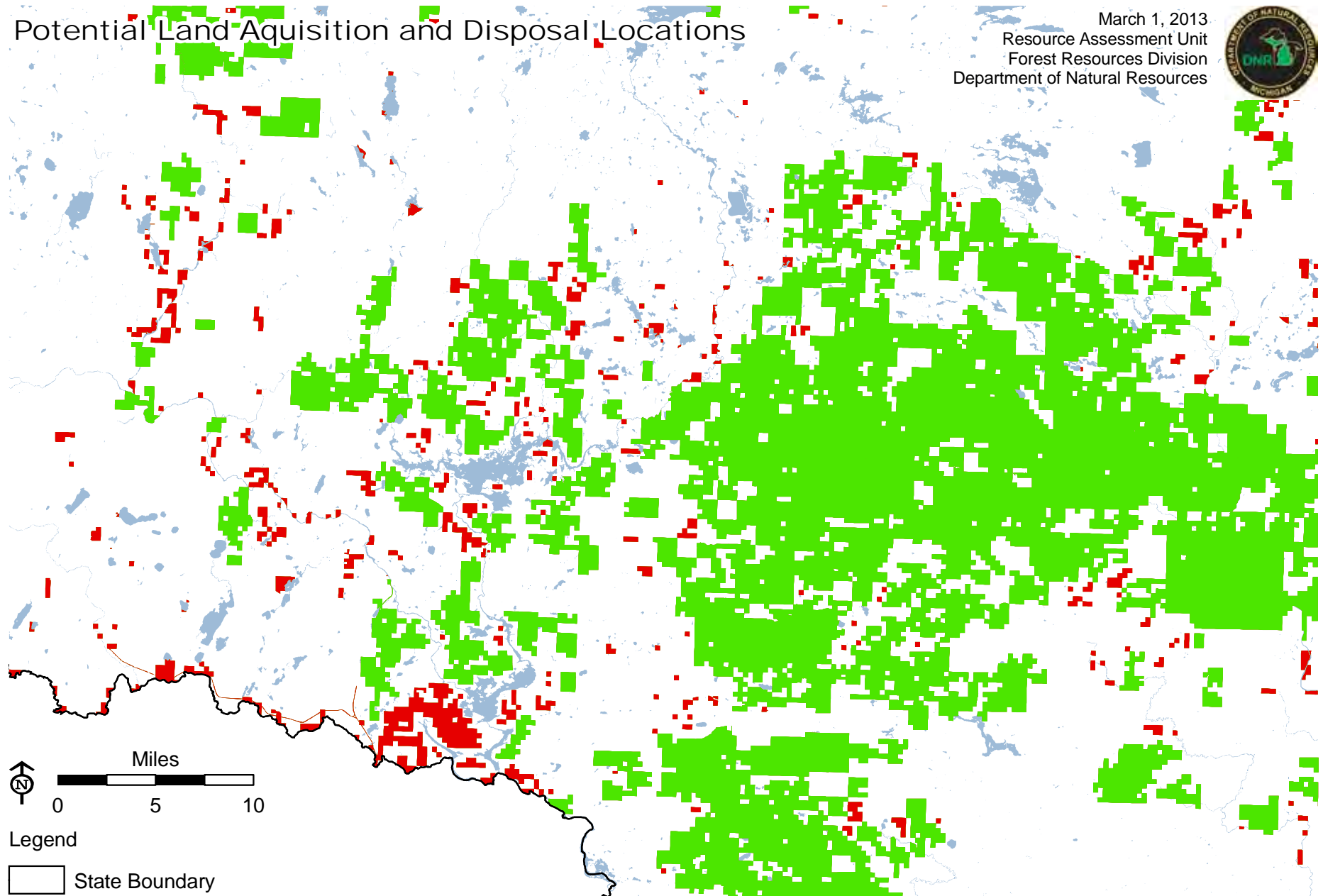
Regional analysis of the taxable valuation of real property from 2008-2012 shows that in Northern West Lower Michigan the taxable valuation of real property decreased by about 2%, North East Lower Michigan taxable valuation of real property decreased 4%, and the Upper Peninsula taxable valuation of real property increased about 11%. Whereas, in the rest of the state the taxable valuation of real property decreased by about 16%. This indicates that state ownership of land may act to support the price of private land, and thereby, local property tax revenues. Since PILT payments on purchased lands change at the rate of CPI instead of with the market value of land, fully funded PILT payments also provide a stable source of revenue for local governments at times of economic hardship.

Future PILT payments for purchased and tax-reverted lands are poised to rise dramatically due to PA 603 and 604 of 2012. The payment per acre for tax-reverted parcels will increase to \$4 per acre by Dec. 31, 2014, and continue to increase at CPI or 5 percent, whichever is less. PILT for purchased land will be based on the true cash value of the

land, or the current method, whichever is greater. This means that land valuations, in instances where purchased property is in desirable locations, will increase more rapidly than before. Valuations for purchased property in undesirable locations will be buffered from decreases and will increase at the rate of the CPI. The payment change for tax-reverted property alone will increase by about \$7 million, or about 50 percent of total current payments for state-owned land.

# Potential Land Aquisition and Disposal Locations

March 1, 2013  
Resource Assessment Unit  
Forest Resources Division  
Department of Natural Resources



## Legend

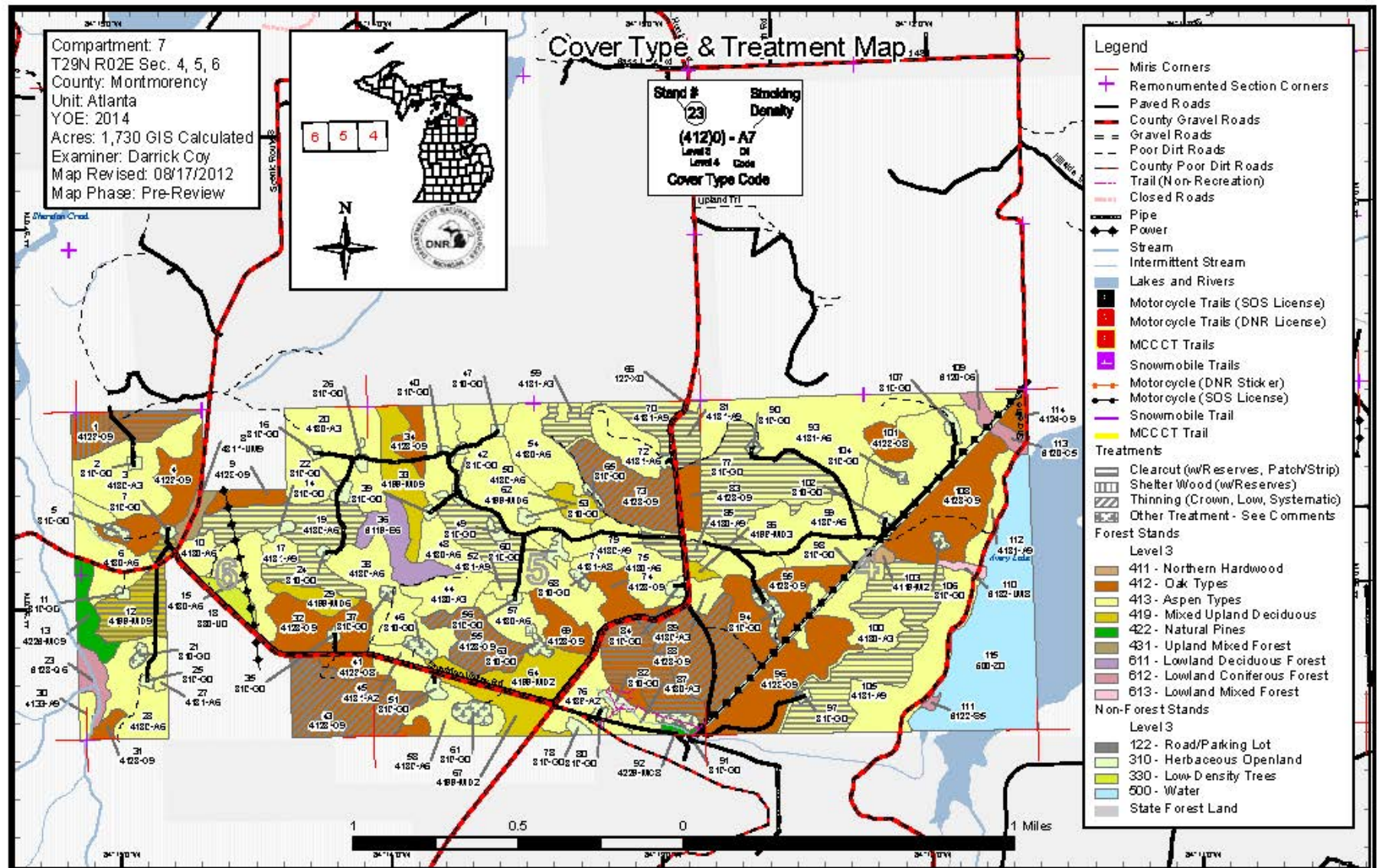
- State Boundary
- Lakes and Rivers
- Consolidated State Land
- Unconsolidated State Land

Consolidated State Land is defined as being greater than 200 acres and having an area (acres) to perimeter (meters) ratio greater than 236.0483145.

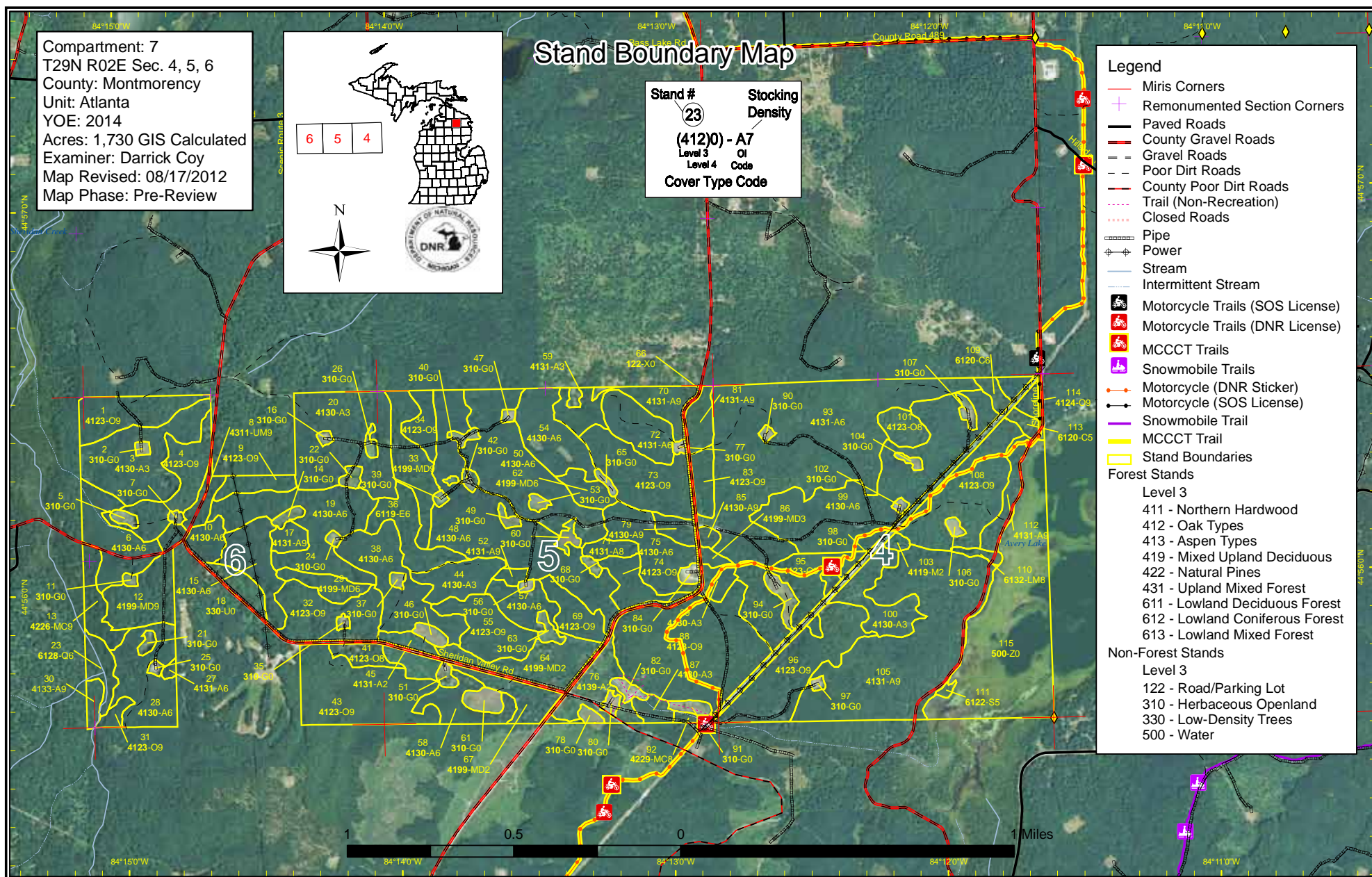
Unconsolidated State Land is defined as being less than 200 acres or having an area (acres) to perimeter (meters) ratio less than 236.0483145.

The area perimeter ratio threshold of 236.0483145 was determined by adding half of one standard deviation to the mean of the area to perimeter ratio frequency distribution.

## Example of state forest compartment and activities associated with it

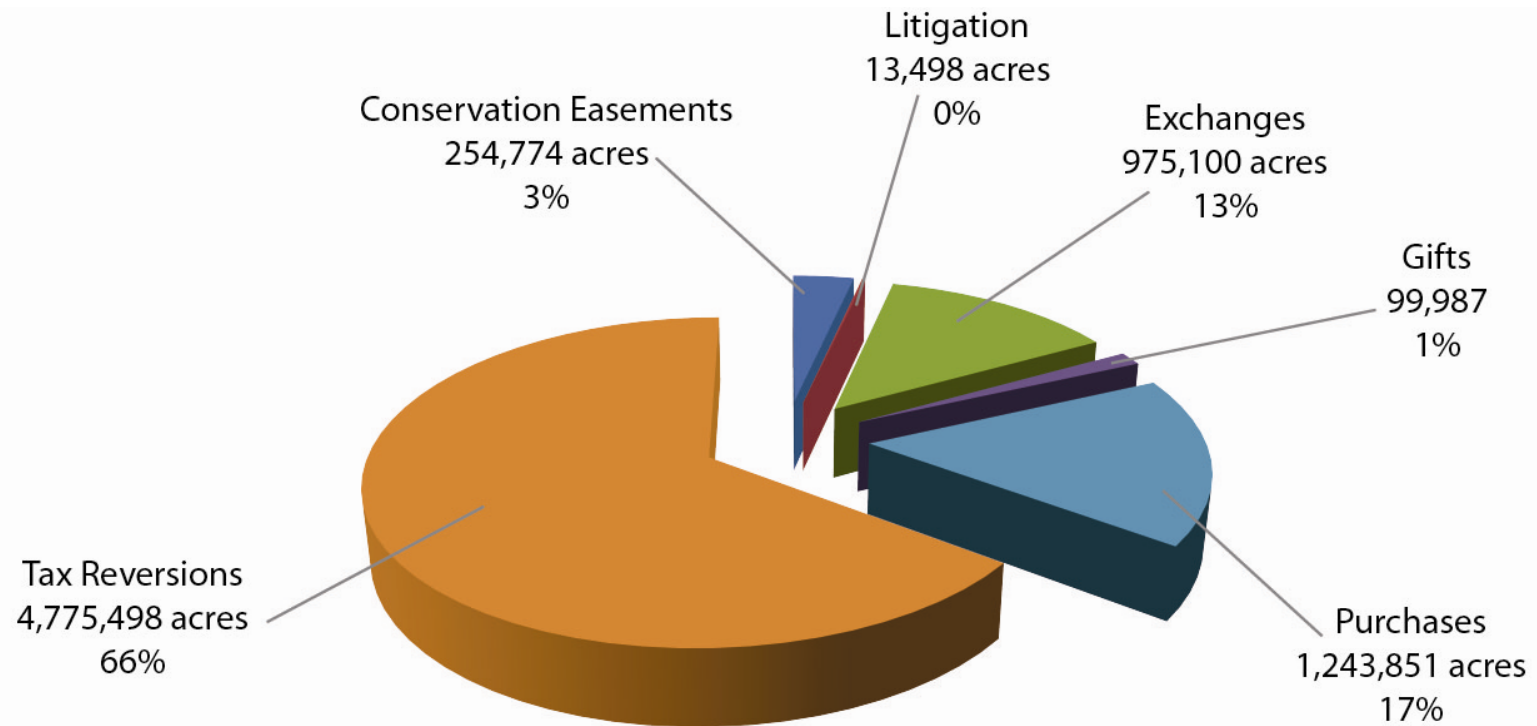






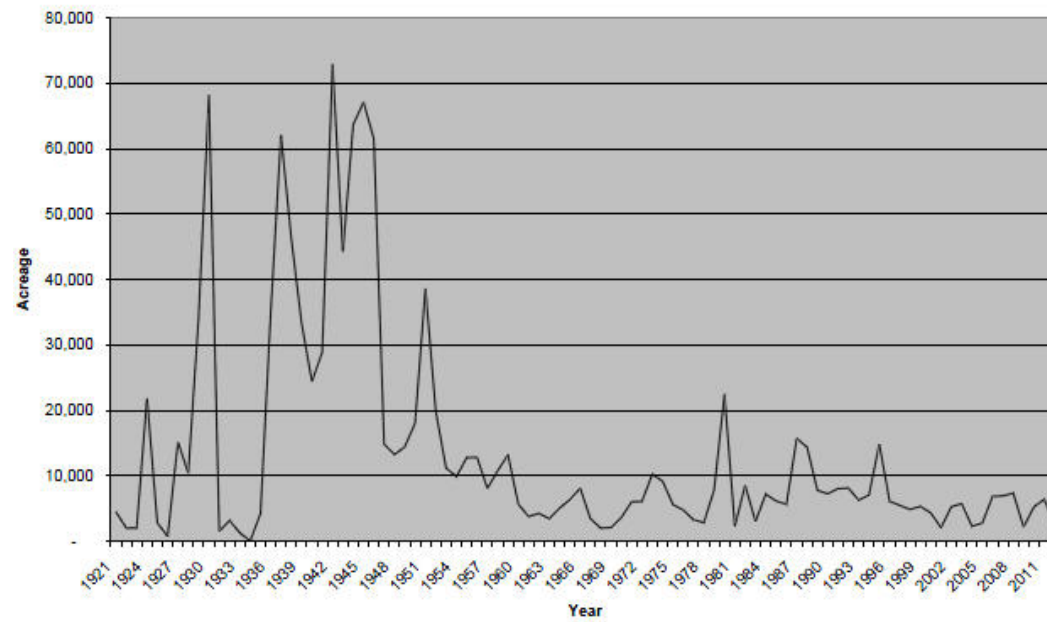
## APPENDIX THREE – HISTORY OF LAND ACQUISITION

### Acquisition Acreages 1921 to Present Acreage Parcels Only

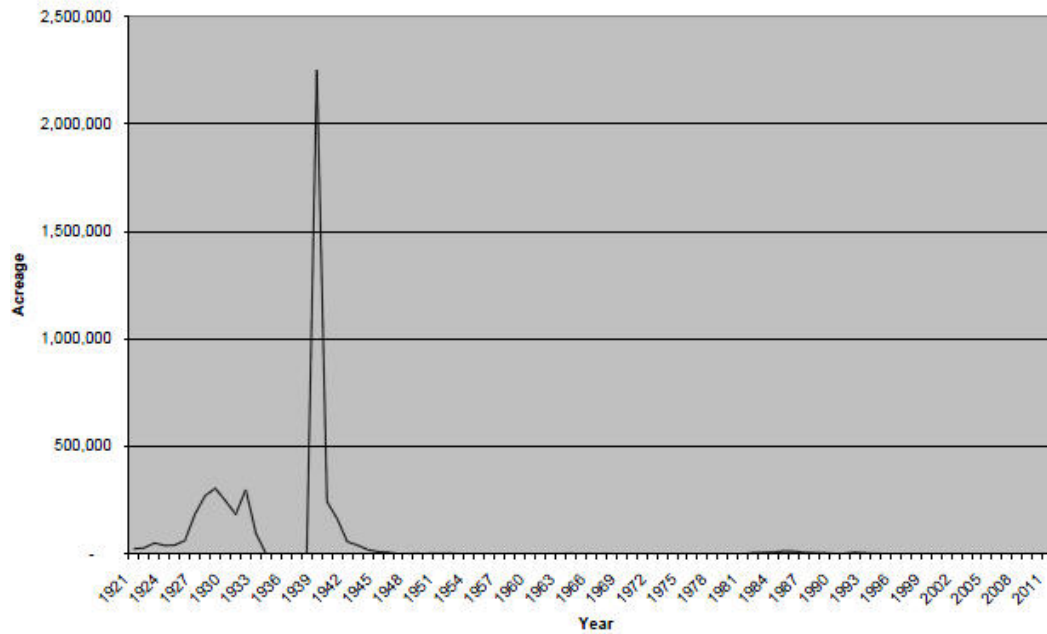




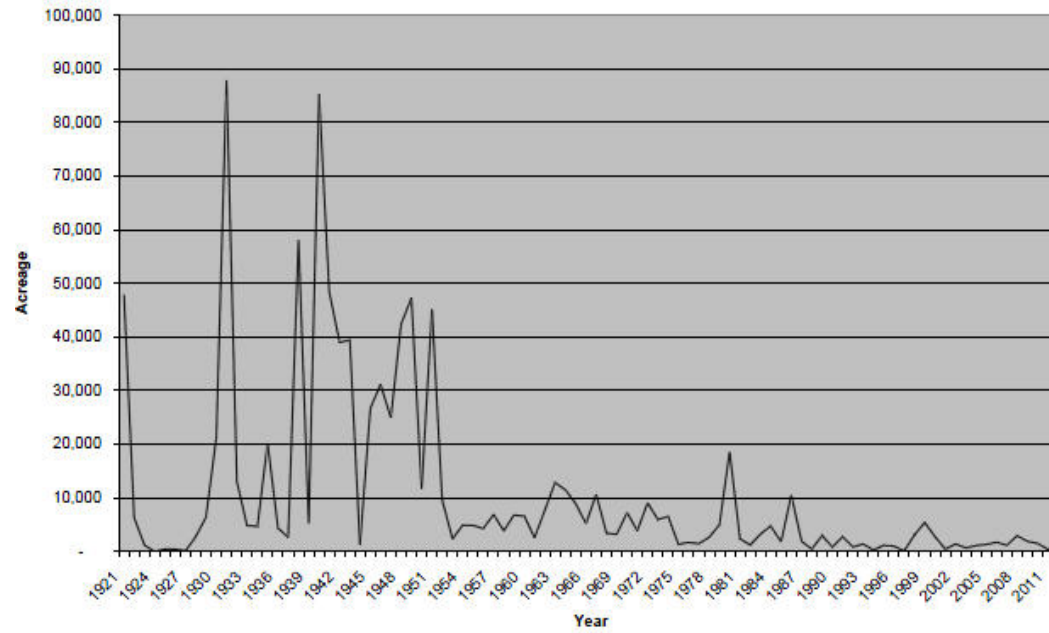
Purchase Acquisitions 1921 to Present  
Acreage Parcels Only



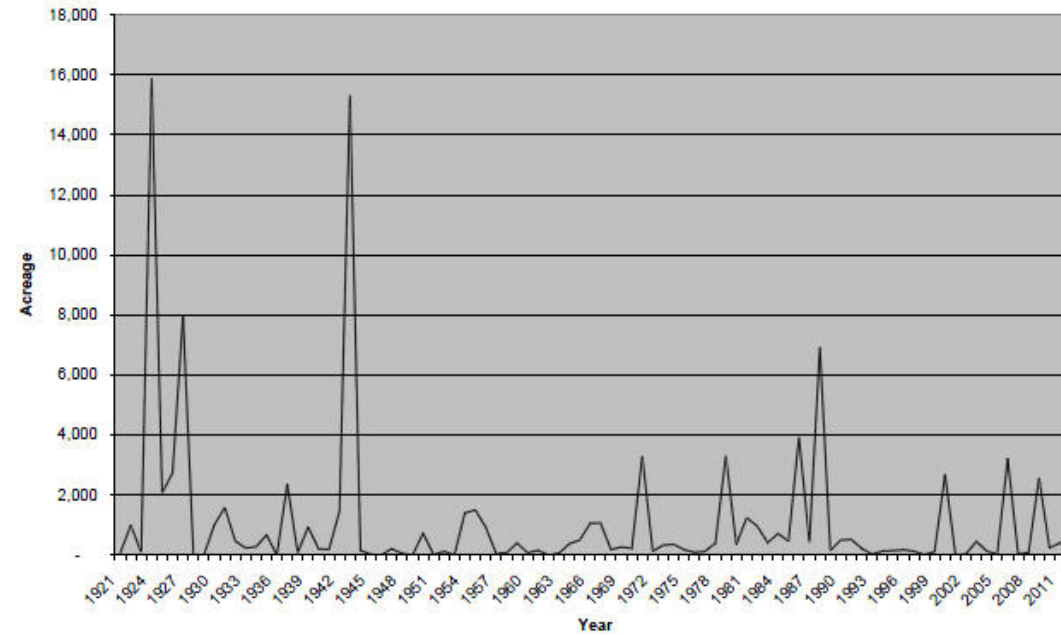
Tax Reversion Acquisitions 1921 to Present  
Acreage Parcels Only

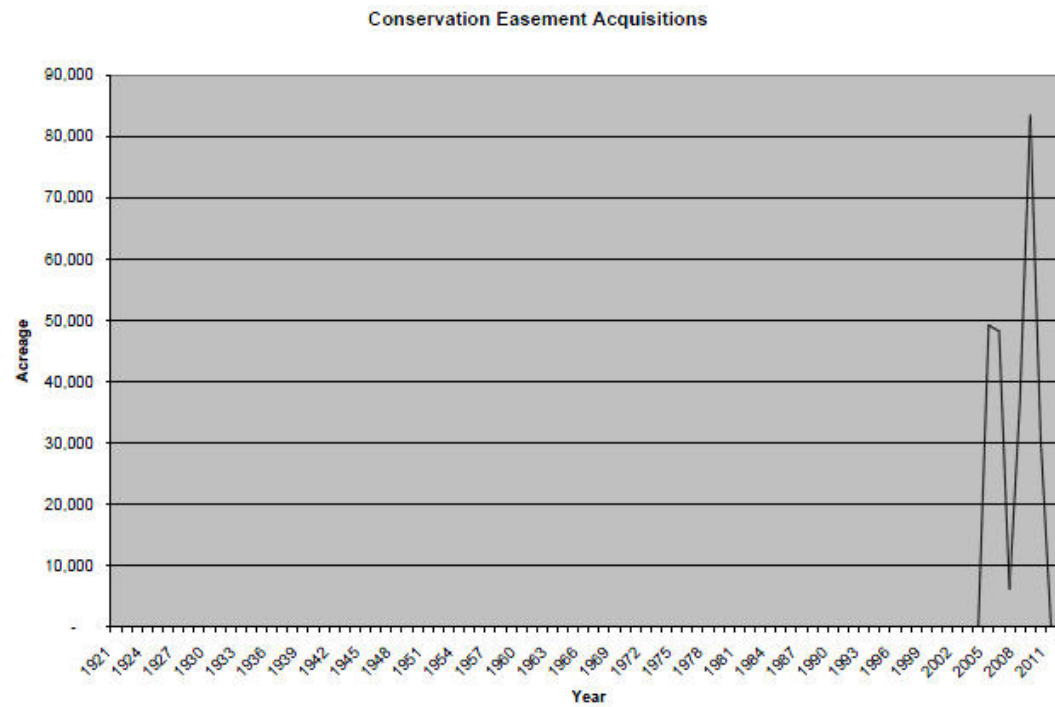


Exchange Acquisitions - All Types - 1921 to Present  
Acreage Parcels Only

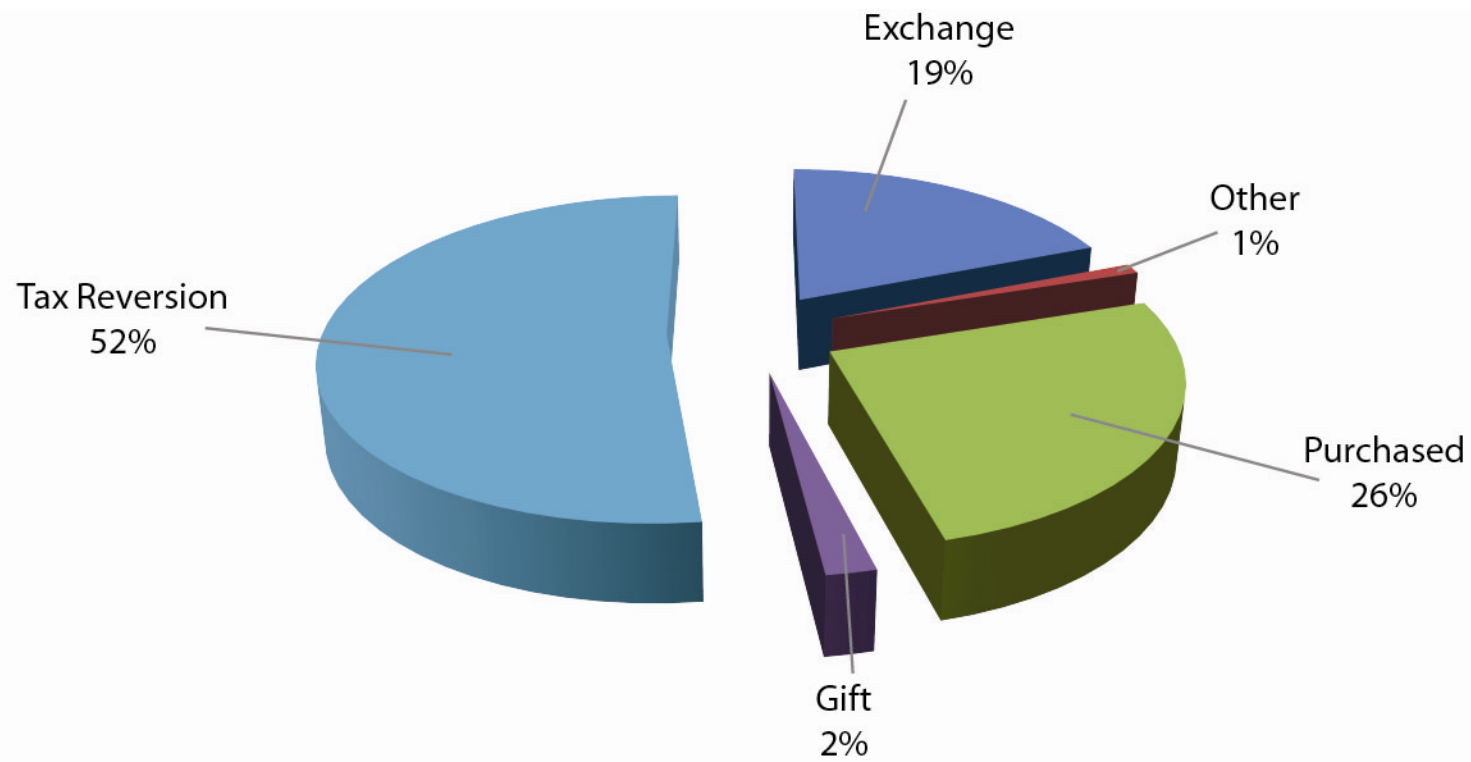


Gift Acquisitions 1921 to Present  
Acreage Parcels Only

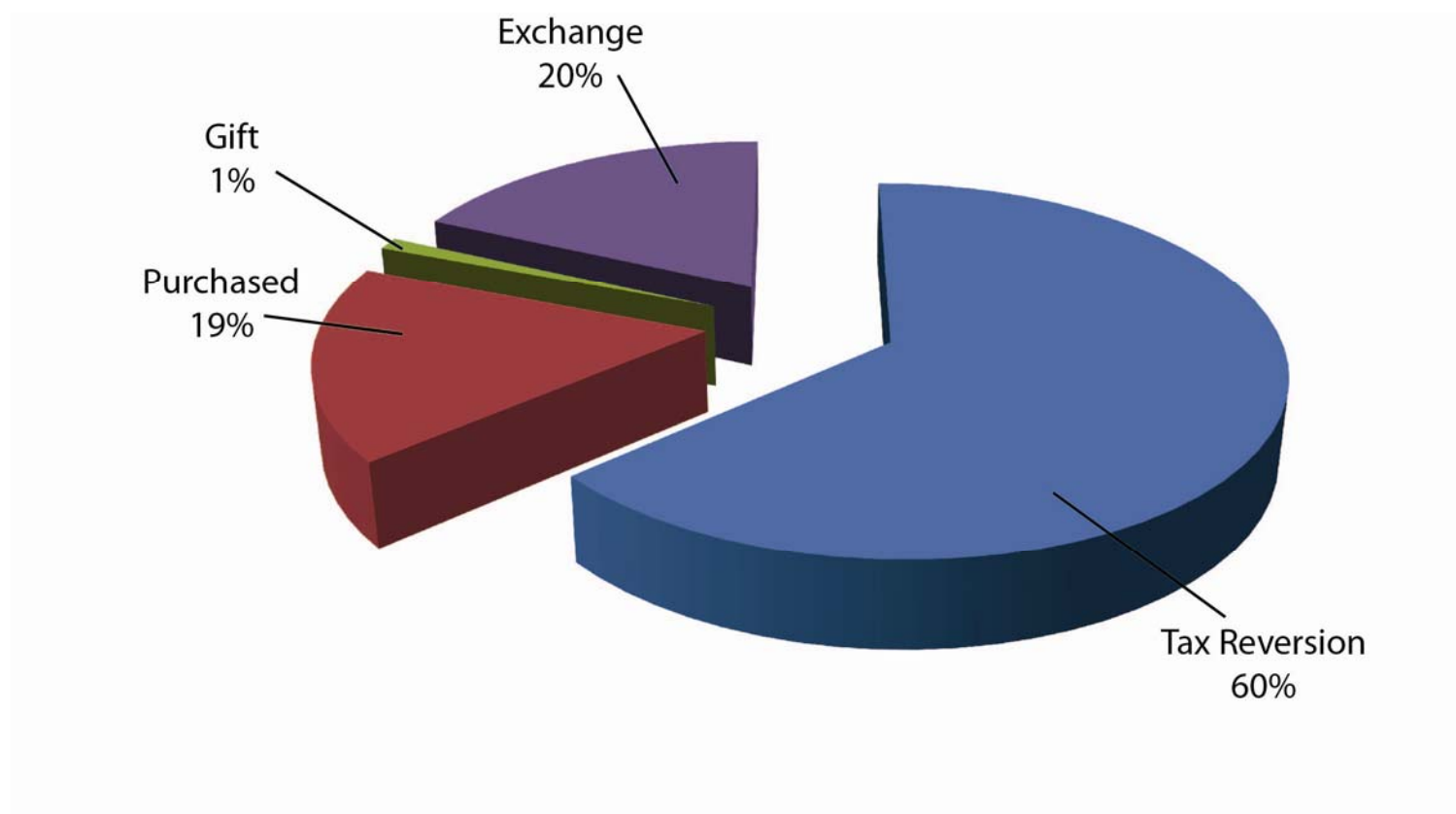




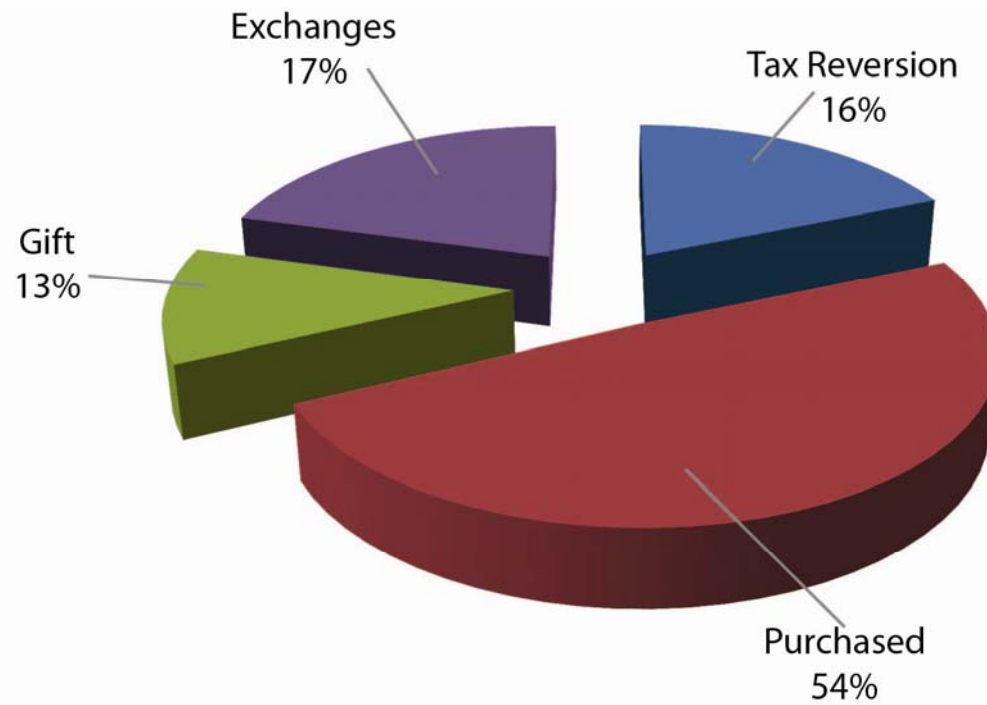
### Percentage of DNR Managed Lands by Acquisition



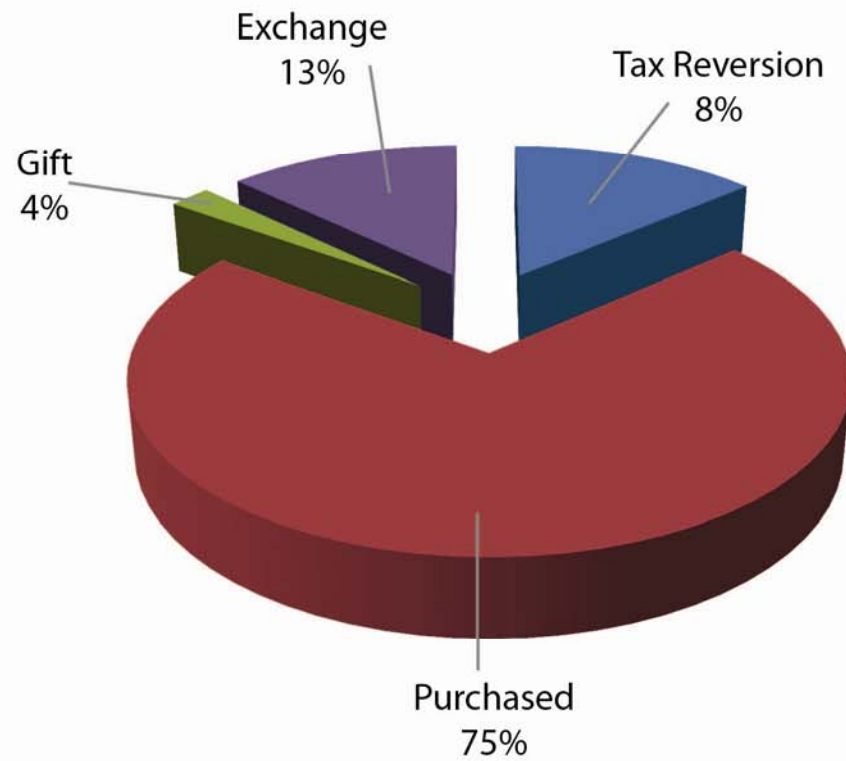
### Acquisition Method of Current Forest Resource Division Lands



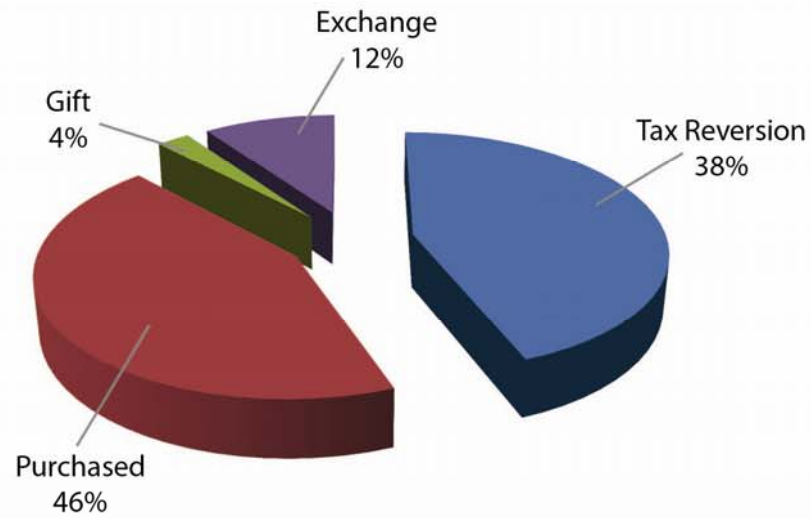
### Acquisition Method of Current Parks and Recreation Division Lands



### Acquisition Method of Current Wildlife Division Lands



### Acquisition Method of Current Fisheries Division Lands





**Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund**  
**Acquisition Cumulative Acres and Expenditures**  
**1980- 2012**

Expenditures			Acreage		
Local	State	Total Expenditures	Local	State	Total Acres

362 of 1978  
19 of 1980

Data not available  
Data not available

130 of 1981	1,878,428.64	3,588,550.00	5,466,978.64	427.34	2,876.50	3,303.84
223 of 1982	2,244,475.00	8,298,516.00	10,542,991.00	231.90	14,560.68	14,792.58
201 of 1983	3,687,849.44	10,255,141.00	13,942,990.44	1,507.90	14,170.30	15,678.20
429 of 1984	3,381,995.65	8,883,394.20	12,265,389.85	1,993.42	7,799.73	9,793.15
105 of 1985	14,578,498.80	2,767,747.78	17,346,246.58	394.53	17,594.33	17,988.86
197 of 1986	2,793,263.43	10,974,713.48	13,767,976.91	1,662.81	9,284.42	10,947.23
108 of 1987	2,263,175.37	7,917,504.71	10,180,680.08	690.26	3,631.62	4,321.88
304 of 1988	2,167,901.59	9,457,625.76	11,625,527.35	277.06	12,271.90	12,548.96
154 of 1989	1,770,180.37	11,763,527.75	13,533,708.12	448.96	9,419.63	9,868.59
186 of 1990	3,888,567.50	8,176,244.08	12,064,811.58	1,947.10	4,715.45	6,662.55
32 of 1991	4,667,422.48	8,137,297.69	12,804,720.17	701.33	3,336.69	4,038.02
85 of 1992	7,449,674.75	2,467,925.37	9,917,600.12	1,301.44	1,935.52	3,236.96
75 of 1993	6,081,497.38	5,109,071.87	11,190,569.25	824.63	3,759.09	4,583.72
304 of 1994	5,281,181.32	6,675,587.35	11,956,768.67	959.46	10,727.18	11,686.64
152 of 1995	9,251,199.85	4,571,879.70	13,823,079.55	1,705.51	3,042.86	4,748.37
353 of 1996	9,563,792.95	5,591,442.57	15,155,235.52	1,792.66	592.03	2,283.69 *
480 of 1996	6,387,385.49	6,241,206.46	12,628,591.95	1,666.06	3,485.71	5,151.77
185 of 1997	4,971,542.55	4,225,205.55	9,196,748.10	497.47	123.44	620.91
273 of 1998	6,210,807.76	4,586,862.90	10,797,670.66	1,011.00	1,026.47	2,037.52
538 of 1998	3,247,794.92	2,212,087.77	5,459,882.69	682.27	172.14	854.41
69 of 1999	3,683,158.67	4,611,959.52	8,295,118.19	511.53	1,467.29	1,978.82
265 of 1999	3,147,638.74	2,794,786.80	5,942,425.54	956.42	1,477.48	2,433.90

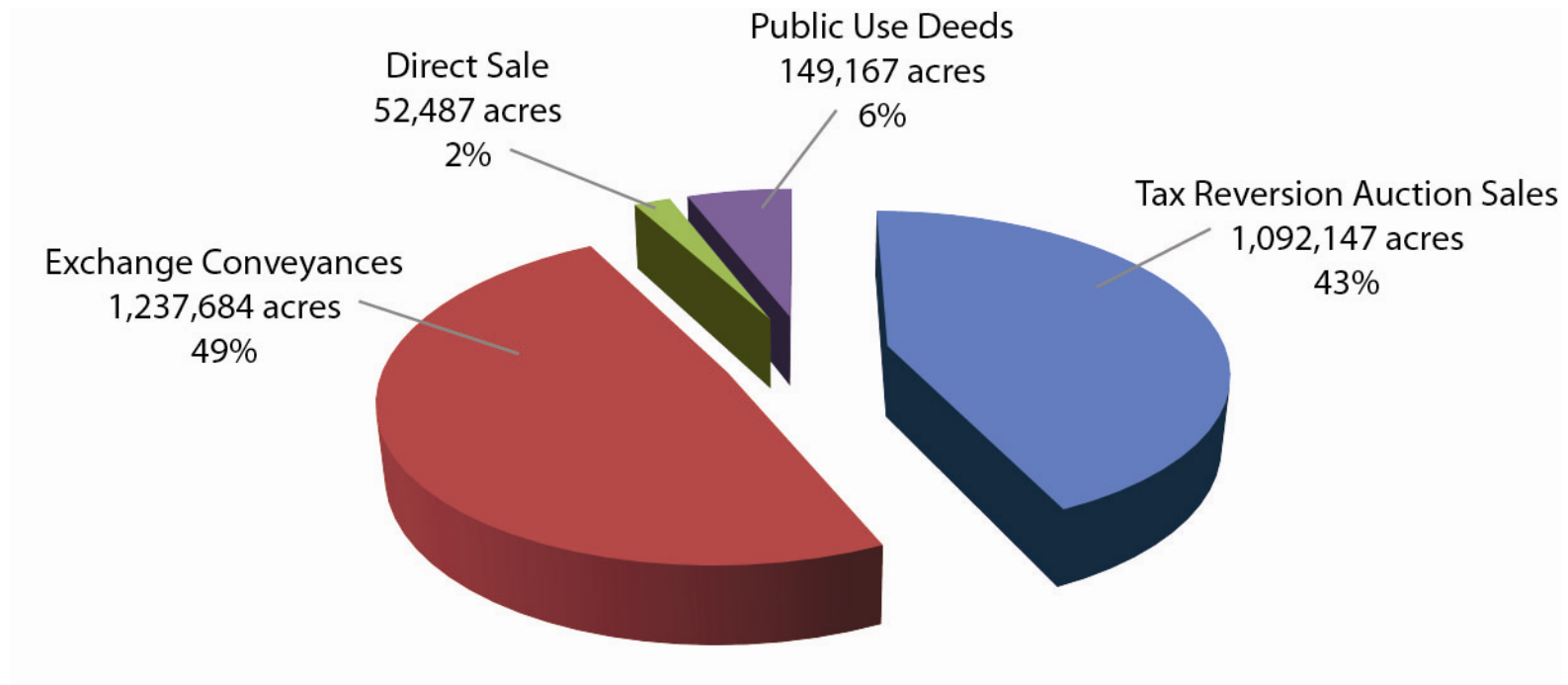
**Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund**  
**Acquisition Cumulative Acres and Expenditures**  
**1980- 2012**

	Expenditures			Acreage		
	Local	State	Total Expenditures	Local	State	Total Acres
291 of 2000	5,472,206.75	3,473,851.10	8,946,057.85	875.33	1,252.85	2,128.18
506 of 2000	5,207,628.36	2,293,400.00	7,501,028.36	703.81	670.06	1,373.87
81 of 2001	8,221,543.40	2,181,577.94	10,403,121.34	1,067.22	898.86	1,966.08
120 of 2001	12,554,688.42	8,734,227.46	21,288,915.88	836.01	3,562.09	4,398.10
746 of 2002	7,275,116.97	7,707,501.44	14,982,618.41	355.26	3,961.77	4,317.03
173 of 2003	2,095,675.47	710,725.00	2,806,400.47	203.90	309.00	512.90
309 of 2004	5,558,800.96	3,334,696.73	8,893,497.69	951.69	6,559.99	7,511.68
11 of 2005	5,319,007.34	5,623,928.67	10,942,936.01	568.82	650.44	1,219.26
153 of 2006	8,118,692.92	9,540,918.91	17,659,611.83	1,210.03	3,490.82	4,700.85
59 of 2007	11,656,776.17	11,807,567.19	23,464,343.36	2,175.93	3,199.21	5,375.14
278 of 2008	9,271,835.85	8,701,181.00	17,973,016.85	864.60	4,920.09	5,784.69
23 of 2009	11,171,463.75	12,252,882.39	23,424,346.14	677.09	3,048.00	3,725.09
27 of 2010	11,426,293.02	4,738,452.50	16,164,745.52	427.39	1,695.71	2,123.10
16 of 2011	12,784,627.87	7,265,927.68	20,050,555.55	34.06	4,720.70	4,754.76
Pending for 2012	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	\$224,731,789.90	\$227,675,116.32	\$452,406,906.22	33,142.20	166,410.05	199,451.29

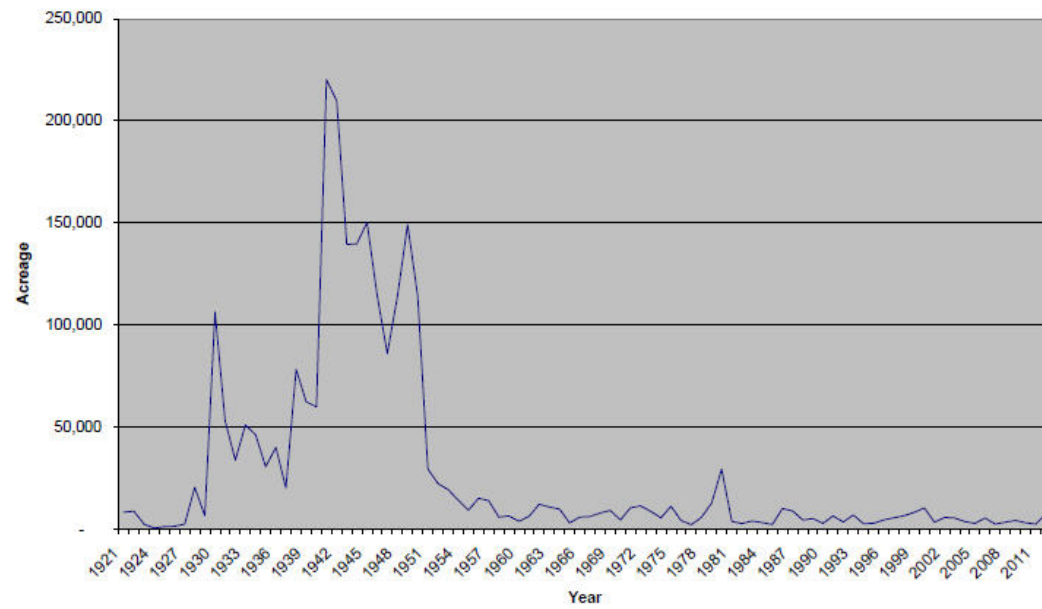
\* Includes Mueller-Brass Consent Settlement Funds

## APPENDIX FOUR – HISTORY OF LAND DISPOSAL

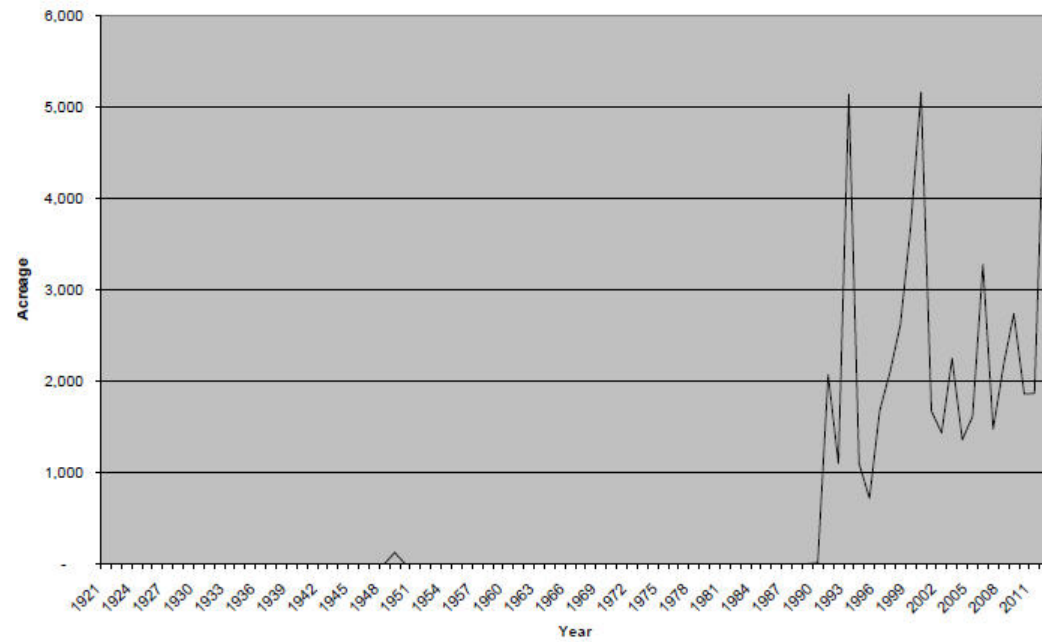
### Conveyances 1921 to Present Acreage Parcels Only

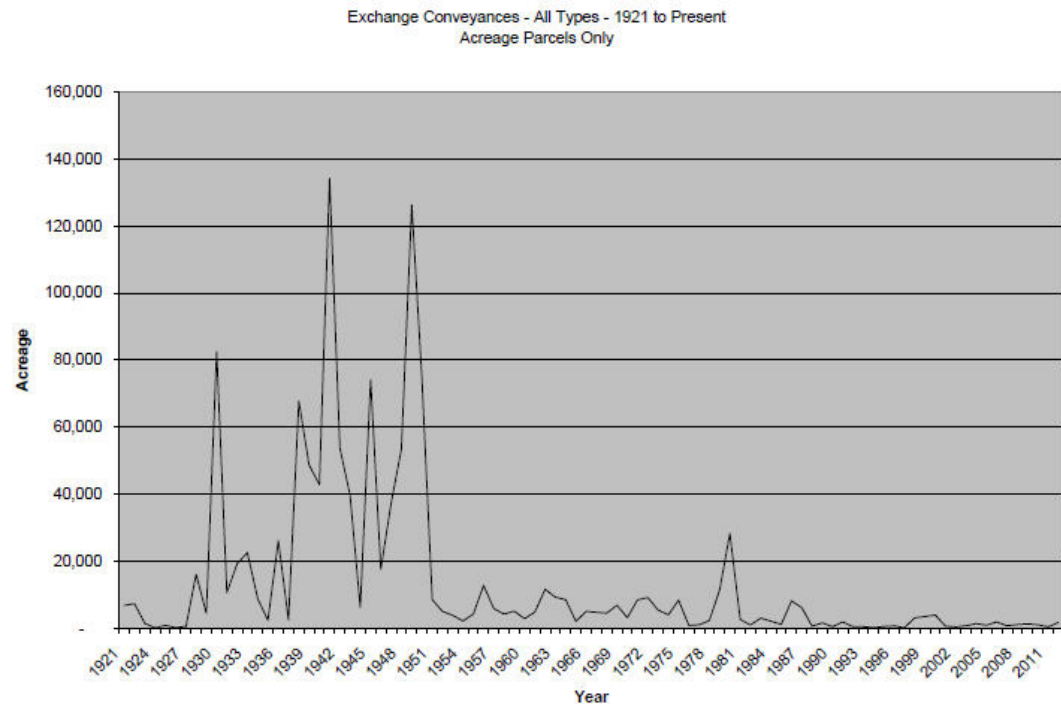
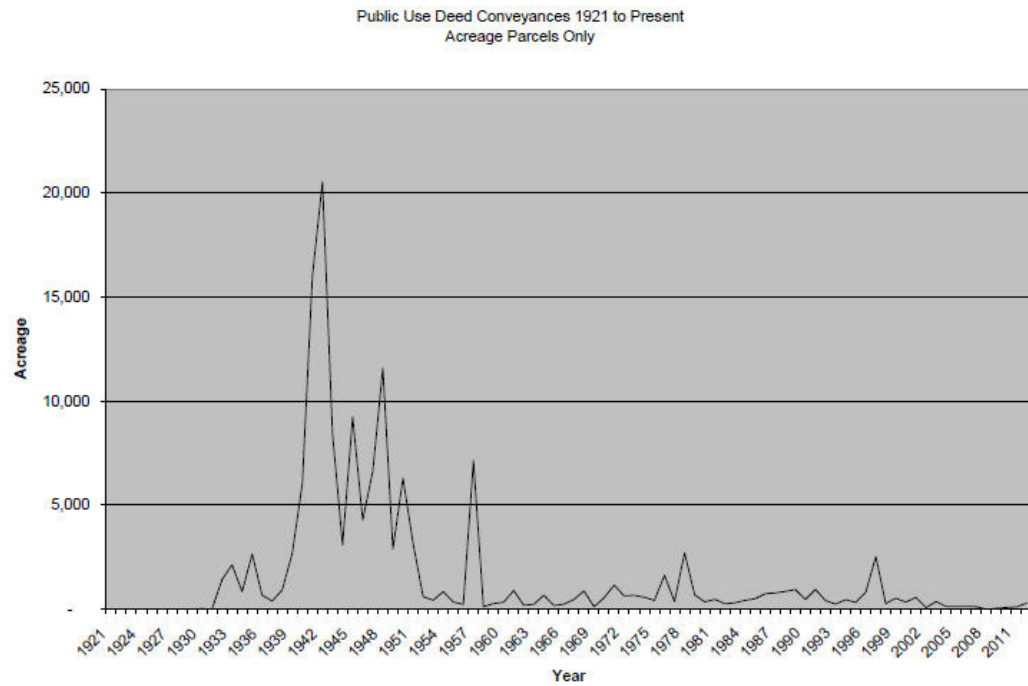


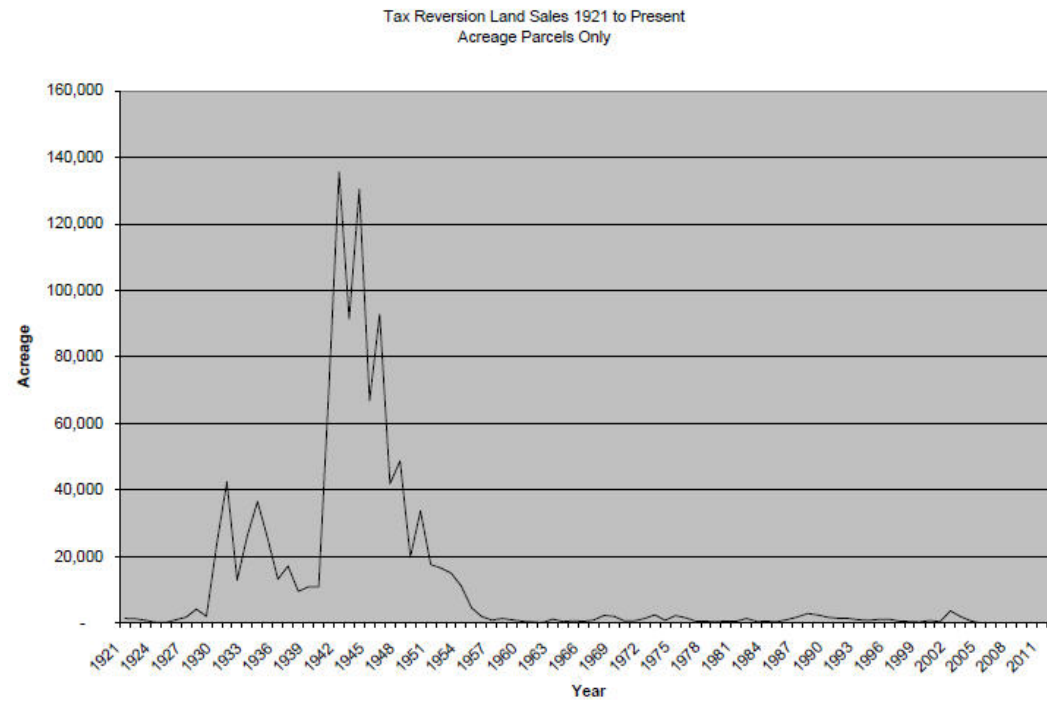
Total Conveyances 1921 to Present  
 Acreage Parcels Only  
 Does Not Include Reconveyances, Certificates of Errors and Several Other Categories



Direct Sales 1921 to Present







## **Transactions Supporting Economic Activities 2008 to 2012**

### **Introduction**

During the last five years, the Department has completed more than 1,000 land transactions. These transactions have involved the selling, purchasing and exchanging of surface ownerships, utility easements, access easements, mineral rights and conservation easements for projects that support local, regional, and statewide economies as well as projects that further the Department's mission. An overview of the more significant transactions is provided below. A map showing the approximate location of each transaction is provided at the end of this report.

### **Land Sales**

#### **1 - Proud Lake Land Sale**

The Department conveyed a 502-acre parcel of land in Oakland County to Commerce Township for community enhancement and the creation of a public park for its 36,000 residents. The Township intends to improve a portion of the property for developed outdoor recreation activities, such as ball fields, an ice rink and basketball courts.

#### **2 - Land Consolidation Strategy Sales and Exchanges**

In 2004, the Department established its current land management boundaries and began the review of potential surplus lands that lie outside of those boundaries. Within the past five years, 298 transactions have been completed under this program. These properties total 6,638 acres of land with the vast majority of them being initially acquired by the state through the tax reversion process. Many of these lands have now been returned to the tax rolls.

### **Easement Sales**

Based on a random sample of the 9,172 easements that the Department has granted over its lifetime, the Department has granted easement across 8,740 miles of land. This is a distance nearly equal to driving from Lansing to San Diego four times. In addition to these easements, there is an estimated 2,360 miles of county road right-of-ways on Department managed lands that are not covered by written easements.

In just the past five years, the Department has issued 282 easements across 186 miles of land. As shown on the following chart, the easements have been issued for a variety of uses, including, but not limited to: telecommunications, oil and gas pipelines, electricity, water, sewage, highways and driveways. Provided below are examples of easements that enhanced the quality of life and provided positive economic impacts for the people of the state.

#### **3 - Kinross Charter Township Easement**

Water main, sewer, road and electric easement to support the Frontier Renewable Resources Plant ethanol plant in Kinross. According to the Frontier Renewable Resources website, Frontier will develop and operate a first-of-its-kind commercial-scale cellulosic ethanol facility in Kinross. The facility will use a consolidated bioprocessing technology platform to convert hardwood pulpwood into 20 million gallons of ethanol per year initially. Construction is expected to cost an estimated \$232 million to complete.

#### **4 - Heritage Sustainable Energy/American Transmission Company Easement**

Six miles of electric transmission and a substation on State-owned land to support the Garden Peninsula Wind Farm. The Garden Wind Farm in Garden Township, Delta County, Michigan, is the first wind energy generating facility in the

Upper Peninsula. It consists of 14 two-megawatt wind turbines for a total installed generation capacity of 28 megawatts. The wind farm became fully operational in September of 2012. Over an annual period, the wind farm is anticipated to generate in excess of 70,000 megawatt hours of renewable, clean electricity. This is equivalent to the amount of energy needed to power nearly 7,000 average households (almost 50 percent of Delta County's households).

#### 5 - Whitewater Express Pipeline Easement

The Department granted an easement covering six miles of a 15.75 mile long natural gas pipeline with a construction cost of \$3.6 million. This pipeline will enable the efficient transport of natural gas from wells drilled in Antrim and Grand Traverse counties for delivery to the Kalkaska Gas Plant. The facility extracts propane and other heavier hydrocarbons from natural gas and has a design capacity to generate 75 MWe of electricity for distribution to the public.

#### 6 - American Transmission Company Iron County Easement

Four and one-half miles of electric transmission corridor in Iron County for a project that reinforced the electrical transmission infrastructure in the Western Upper Peninsula.

#### 7 - Alger-Delta Electric Association Easement

Upgrade and add to the electric infrastructure in Marquette County for local service and the Kennecott Eagle Mine. The Kennecott Eagle Mine is an \$80 million nickel and copper mine in northern Marquette County that is expected to directly employ up to 70 full-time workers who will process 1,500 tons of ore per day.

#### 8 - Harbor Springs Area Sewer Authority Easement

Three and one-half mile long sanitary force main running within a rail-trail corridor in order to provide sewer service along the developing US 31 corridor from Bay View to Alanson.

#### 9 - City of St. Joseph Easement

This easement permitted the City of St. Joseph to construct a nearly one mile long water intake pipe along and under the Lake Michigan bottomlands. This will permit the City to increase their current pumping capacity of 16 million gallons per day to 40 million gallons per day. The new intake is also located in deeper water, which will provide improved water quality to the citizens of St. Joseph and be more reliable as the new intake site will require less dredging to keep it clear of shifting sediments.

#### 10 - Moyle Real Estate Development Easement

The Department conveyed a 100 foot wide easement across the Keweenaw Trail, east of Hancock, in order to provide access to a 72-unit high end condominium project that was developed on a reclaimed industrial site.

#### 11 - Encana / CVB Pipeline Easement

Six miles of natural gas pipeline crossing DNR managed land that will be used to transport natural gas from several proposed natural gas wells.

### **Development Partnerships**

#### 12 - Detroit Riverfront Project

Between 2009 and 2012, the Department acquired the 26.46 acre Detroit Free Press property and the Detroit RiverWalk along the banks of the Detroit River in Downtown Detroit. This multi-phase acquisition project is in association



with the Department's William G. Milliken State Park and Harbor. It is being continued with the development of the Globe Outdoor Adventure Center and purchase of adjacent land that will expand amenities along this urban open space corridor. This project is based on collaborative efforts between the Detroit RiverFront Conservancy, Detroit Economic Growth Corporation, City of Detroit, the Department of Natural Resources and many other partnerships seeking to transform the Detroit Riverfront into a vibrant and attractive green space.

#### 13 - Crawford County Economic Development Partnership

In April of 2000, the Department entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement with what is now the Crawford County Economic Development Partnership. The Department and the Partnership have identified a 1,850 acre area to the south east of the City of Grayling, adjacent to both I-75 and an active railroad line, that the Department stands ready to convey to developers per the terms of the MOU.

### **Exchanges**

#### 14 - Nub's Nob Exchange

Beginning in the early 1980s the Department conveyed land to the Nub's Nob ski resort for the expansion of the resort. This latest transaction was completed in 2011 and represents the final transaction for this 30 year project. The Nub's Nob ski resort has 248 acres of skiable terrain (much of it acquired from the Department), 53 ski runs, and 58 lodges with over 2,800 rooms.

#### 15 - Longyear/Mascoma Exchange

This exchange involved a total of 1,164 acres of land and provided the proposed Frontier Renewable Resources ethanol plant in Kinross. A total of 355 acres of land were

conveyed so that it could develop and operate the previously detailed first-of-its-kind commercial-scale cellulosic ethanol facility in Kinross. The facility will use a consolidated bioprocessing technology platform to convert hardwood pulpwood into 20 million gallons of ethanol per year initially. Construction is expected to cost an estimated \$232 million to complete.

### **Public Use Deeds**

#### 16 - Iron Ore Heritage Trail Public Use Deed

The Iron Ore Heritage Trail is envisioned as a 48-mile, multi-use, year round trail. It connects, preserves, and interprets the significant structures and stories of the iron mining heritage of Marquette County. The goals are to provide local residents and visitors with a wide variety of outdoor activities. Also to serve as a resource for teachers and the public to learn about the local mining industry while gaining an understanding of the local natural and cultural history, and to serve as a spur for local economic development opportunities. In 2012, the Department conveyed over 280 acres of land by Public Use Deed to the Iron Ore Heritage Recreation Authority (IOHRA), a multijurisdictional body representing 10 local governmental units. The land exchange secured over 380 acres of land that was required to complete the connectivity of the Iron Ore Heritage Trail east of Negaunee.

### **Purchases**

#### **Rail-Trail Acquisitions**

Working to complete the vision of an interconnected state trail system requires a coordinated and concerted action among the many organizations pursuing trail development statewide. The transactions that follow represent impressive progress toward fulfilling that vision.

## 17 - Marquette West Connector Extension Purchase

In 2009, the Department and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), to work collaboratively to acquire rail corridors as they become available. In this example, the Department held title to a 6.27 mile long corridor named the Marquette

West Connector. The eastern 3.55 miles is “railbanked” under federal statute to preserve the corridor for future rail reactivation while providing for interim trail use. The Mineral Range Inc. had an easement to operate a railroad over the western 2.72 miles. In 2011, the Department and MDOT partnered to acquire the easement rights to a 0.31 mile long segment offered by the Mineral Range Inc. The acquisition of the offered rights will protect the Department's ownership interest and ensure the preservation of the Marquette West Connector for future transportation use, while allowing trail opportunities in the interim. In combination with this easement acquisition, the Department and Mineral Range Inc. entered into an MOA that sets forth the roles and responsibilities to safely provide both trail and rail use within the remaining 2.41 miles of corridor. By doing so, a permanent route is ensured for the Iron Ore Heritage Trail (IOHT). When combined with the land secured in the exchange completed by the Iron Ore Heritage Recreation Authority (see Public Use Deeds LTA #20110157 above), this transaction allowed the development of an additional 11.0 miles of the IOHT to be completed in 2013 with grant monies provided by the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and MDOT.

## 18 - Ironwood to Bessemer and State Line Trail Connector Purchase

Working collaboratively with the Gogebic Range Next Generation Initiative (GRNGI), the segments of inactive railroad corridor purchased by the Department in 2012 were

stitched together from three separate sellers (Wisconsin Central Ltd, Keweenaw Land Association, and White Spruce Rentals), to serve as the core of the Initiative's “Strengthening Our Niche Regional Trail Concept.” The intent is to provide multi-use trails for motorized and non-motorized users. GRNGI serves the communities of western Gogebic County in Michigan and eastern Iron County in Wisconsin with the mission to retain and attract young people on the Gogebic Range. Beginning near the Wisconsin border on the Montreal River at Ironwood and extending eastward to Bessemer, the offered 7.44 linear miles of inactive Soo Line and C&NW railroad corridors include the following features: the Soo Line railroad bridge over the Montreal River and a 70-foot long easement over the bridge approach on the Wisconsin side to provide motorized and non-motorized trail connectivity between the states’ trail systems; a 1,251-foot long extension of the State Line Trail east of the City of Wakefield; and three steel bridges, one of which is on the National Register of Historic Places. Also offered is a 0.7 acre parcel to the State that is next to the old railroad depot property in the City of Ironwood. The City is the recipient of a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant to develop the property as a downtown park and trailhead. The offered parcel will allow the trail to connect to the future city park. Coupled with other downtown enhancement projects and streetscape improvements, the proposed City of Ironwood Depot Recreation Park and Trailhead is being locally touted as the future Western Upper Peninsula Recreation Gateway, connecting Ironwood to Wisconsin and neighboring Michigan communities through a growing multi-state regional trail system.

## 19 - Iron Mountain Connector Purchase

The purchased corridor stretches 1.35 miles roughly parallel to US-2 and just north of the Central Business District of the City of Iron Mountain. This segment provides a critical

connection into the City from a designated snowmobile trail that runs along a section of inactive railroad corridor acquired by the Department in 1990. The segment is also identified by the Dickinson County Bike Path Committee as a proposed route to connect downtown to the Lake Antoine Bike Path.

#### 20 - Musketawa Trail Extension Purchase

This acquisition, the first of two in which the Department acquired a permanent 20-foot wide recreational trail easement within the right-of-way of the active 57 rail line of the Coopersville & Marne Railway Company (see Coopersville to Marne below), stretches 3.25 miles between Marne and the City of Walker. This easement acquisition provides a critical link toward connecting the State- owned Musketawa Trail and the Fred Meijer White Pine Trail State Park. In cooperation with Ottawa County Parks and Recreation, Kent County Parks, and the Kent County Road Commission, the acquisition of this easement brought the Musketawa Trail one step closer to connecting to the growing network of trails and parks along the Grand River in the Grand Rapids metropolitan area. Development of the trail will include sufficient fencing and barricade features between the active rail line and the trail to ensure the safety of trail users.

#### 21 - Coopersville to Marne Railroad Corridor Purchase

The second of two transactions in which the Department acquired a permanent 20-foot wide recreational trail easement within the right-of-way of the active rail line of the Coopersville & Marne Railway Company, this easement stretches 8.39 miles between Coopersville and Marne, and is a direct extension to the adjoining easement acquired in LTA 20090129 described above. Like the previous phase, this easement represents a big step forward in regional trail connectivity by providing a link to the North Bank Trail. The North Bank Trail is a proposed non-motorized pathway

which is to be constructed west along the same, but inactive portion of, the former Grand Trunk Railroad corridor that the Coopersville & Marne Railway operates on to the east. The trail will connect the Greater Grand Rapids area to the Grand Haven lakeshore community. The first phase of the North Bank Trail is being funded in part through local grants from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund to Spring Lake Township and the Village of Spring Lake.

#### 22 - Grand River Edges Purchase

The acquired 12.09 acres of inactive railroad corridor stretches nearly one mile along the east bank of the Grand River just north of the Central Business District of the City of Grand Rapids. A unique acquisition toward the City's vision of a system of interconnected parks and pathways along the Grand River, the property fills a gap between the City's Riverwalk Pathway to the south and the Riverside Park Trail to the north. This segment, with substantial frontage along the Grand River, is the final piece of corridor that will connect the City of Grand Rapids to 245 miles of the state rail-trail network that includes the Fred Meijer White Pine Trail State Park; Musketawa State Trail; Fred Meijer Berry Junction Trail; Hart-Montague Bicycle Trail State Park; and Pere Marquette State Trail. The area adjacent to the corridor is utilized for various industrial, retail, and commercial office purposes. The trail will enhance the City's existing riverfront park, and contribute to economic development by adding to the amenities in this redeveloping urban center. A unique feature of the property is an area of accreted land that lies nestled between the railroad grade and the Grand River. Approximately 3.18 acres in size, the vacant parcel is wooded, and provides a great trail amenity. The area is considered valuable floodplain in an urban area and provides important flood control capacity. The acquisition was supported by the Fisheries Division for providing shoreline and riparian corridor protection, as well as established access points for fishing.

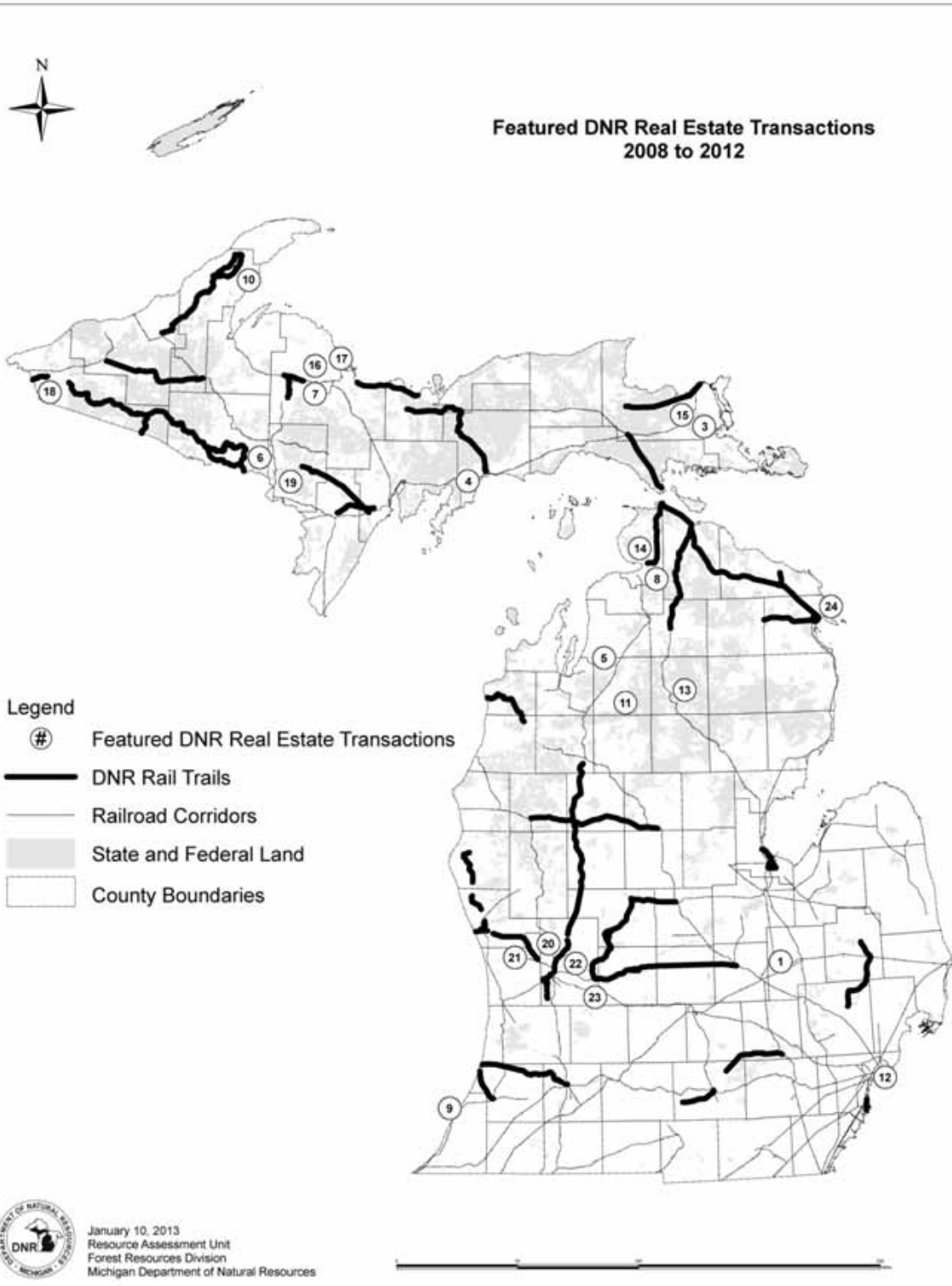
### 23 - Ionia to Lowell Railroad Corridor Purchase

Paralleling the Grand River, the corridor known as the “Fred Meijer Grand River Valley Rail-Trail,” extends westerly 15.83 miles from a point east of the City of Ionia in Ionia County, passing through the City of Ionia, the Ionia State Recreation Area, and Saranac to a point near Lowell in Kent County. The east end of the corridor connects to the 41.23 mile-long Ionia to Owosso Railroad corridor, acquired jointly by the Department and the Michigan Department of Transportation in 2007. Collectively the two grades will provide 57 miles of corridor for multi-use recreational trail purposes. The Friends of the Fred Meijer Heartland Trail (FFMHT), a 501(c)(3) Corporation, was organized in 1994 to establish a recreational trail using abandoned railroad rights-of-ways in Montcalm and Gratiot Counties. In this instance, the FFMHT assisted when the operating railroad indicated it planned to abandon two rail corridors but chose not to sell them to the State. After acquiring the first corridor that ran between Ionia and Lowell, the FFMHT approached the Department about buying that portion that passes through the Ionia Recreation Area. In the course of the discussions, it was suggested that they would gift the remainder of the corridor once some property management issues were resolved with the railroad on the segment to be gifted. In the end, this transaction consisted of the Department acquiring the eastern 8.47 miles of the 15.83 mile long corridor in 2010, and the FFMHT donating the remaining 7.36 miles in 2012. The FFMHT has now completed the purchase of the second rail corridor between Lowell and Greenville, and will be donating that 21.88 mile corridor to the Department in 2013.

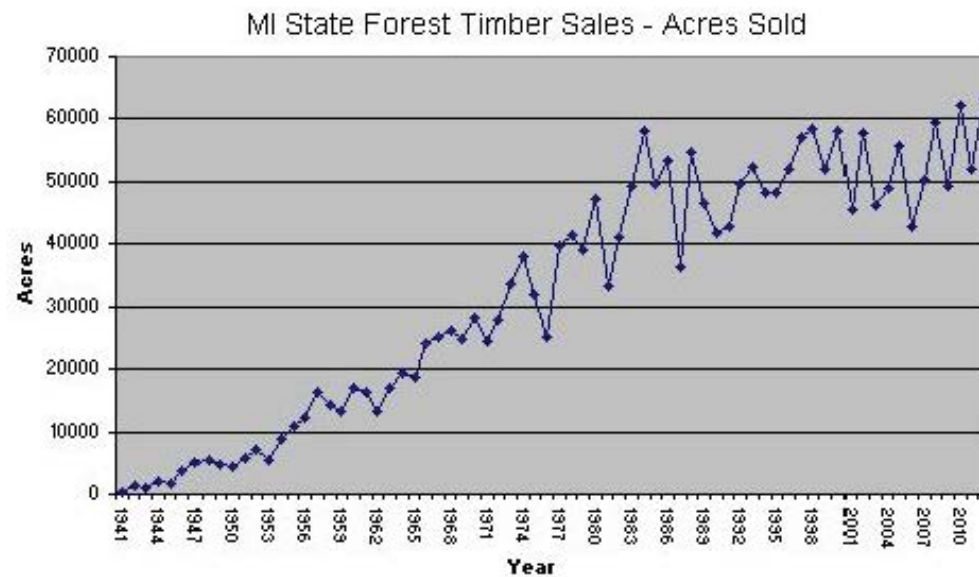
### 24 - North Eastern State Trail Connector Purchase

Prior to surfacing the 70-mile long former railroad corridor between Alpena and Cheboygan with crushed limestone, the Department desired to extend the North Eastern State

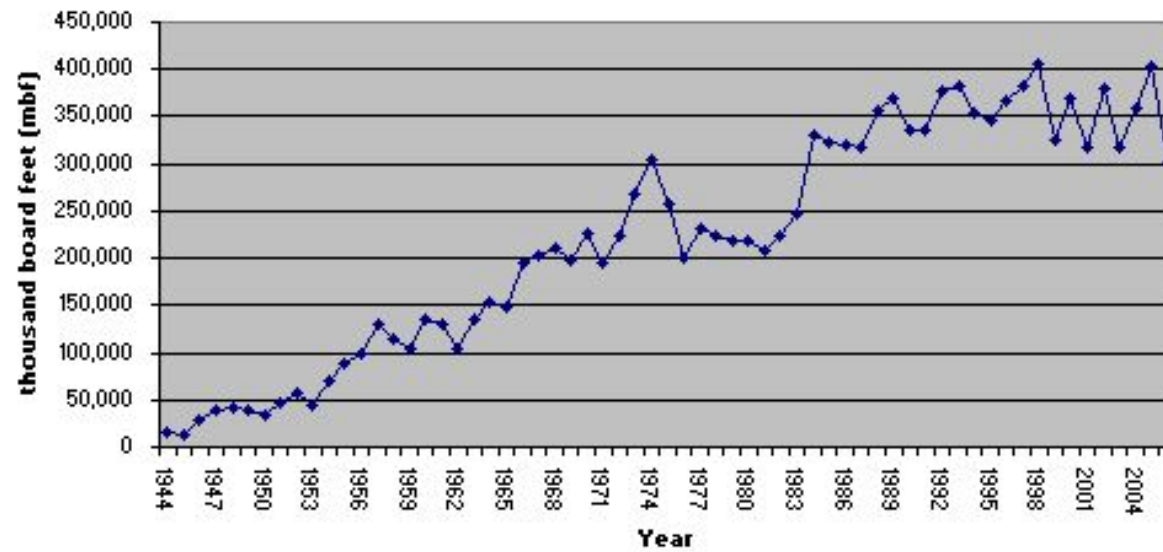
Trail (NEST) one last mile into the City of Alpena. This connector represents an important link between two popular trail systems. At the time the trail was operating under annual license agreements at this location. In 2010, working with three separate entities (Lake State Railway, Alpena Power Company, and Alpena Community College); the Department was able to acquire a short section of the former railroad corridor and two permanent recreational trail easements. With completion of the trail surface improvements and signage, funded through grants from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and Michigan Department of Transportation, the City of Alpena is working to connect its popular 14-mile trail system to the NEST and on to Cheboygan where a connection is made to the 62-mile long North Central State Trail that stretches between Gaylord and Mackinaw City.



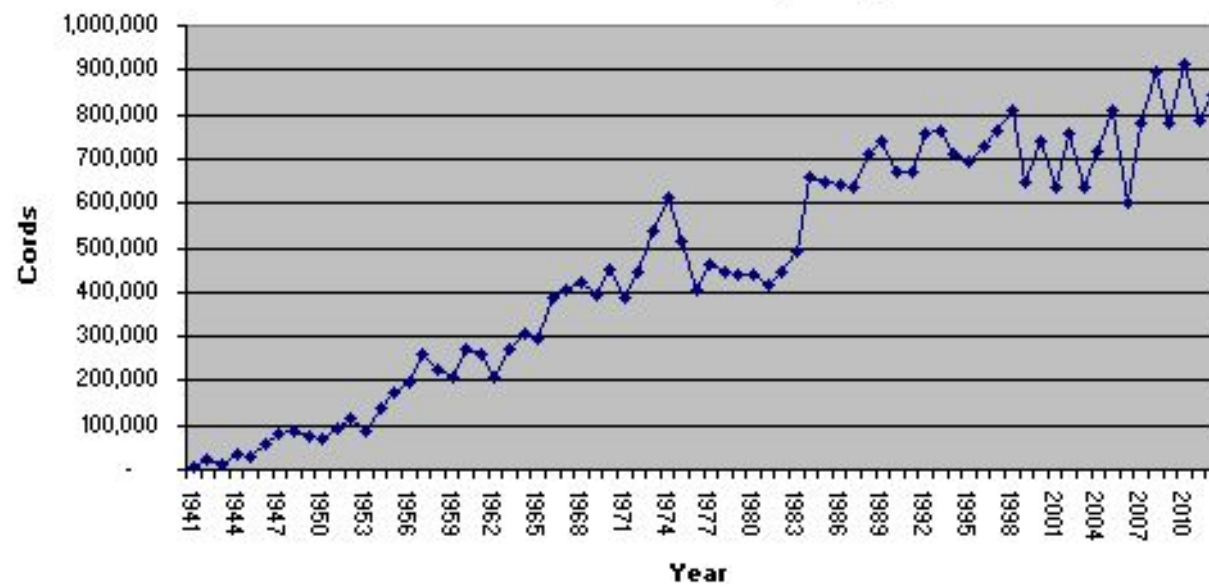
## APPENDIX FIVE – STRATEGY SUPPORT DOCUMENTS



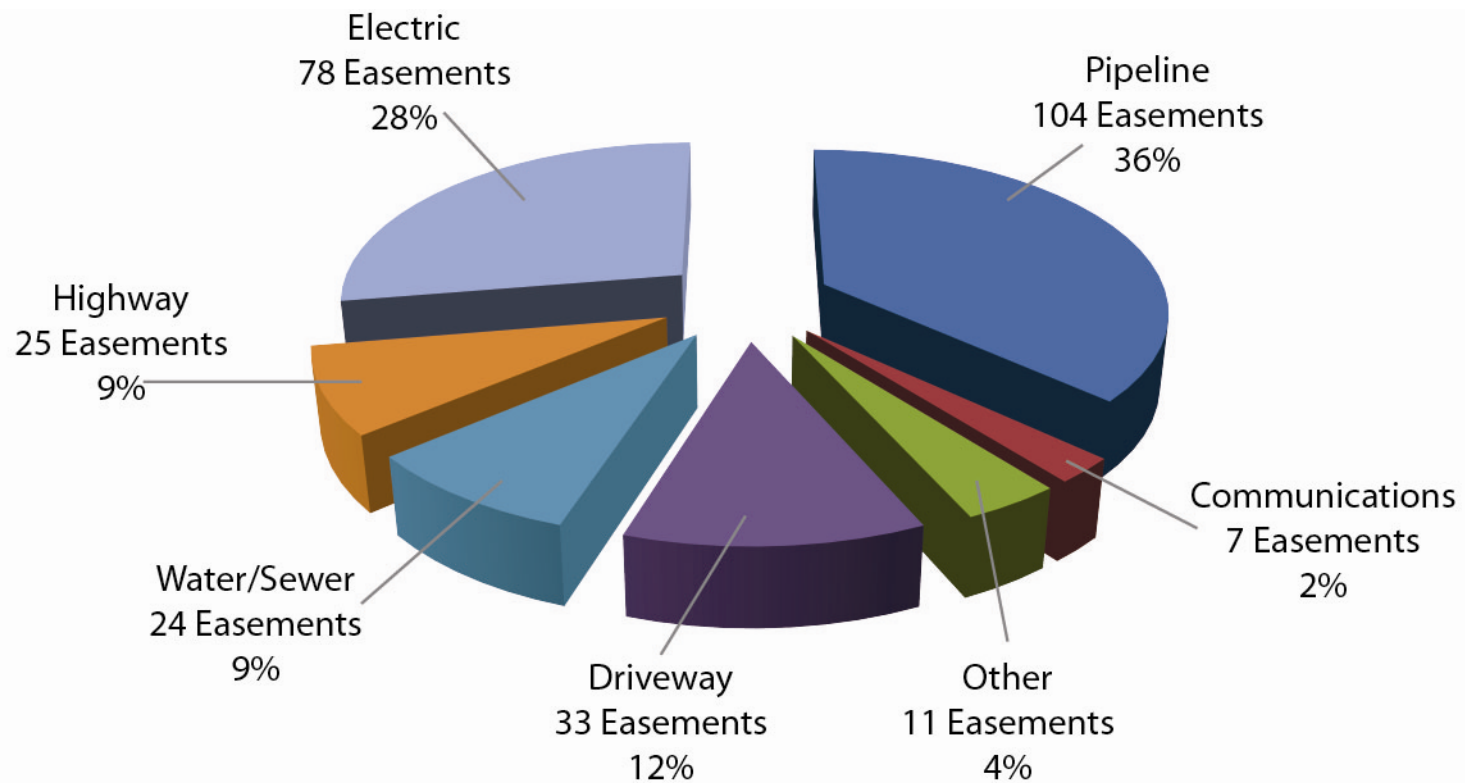
MI State Forest Volume Sold (mbf)



MI State Forest Volume Sold (cords)



**Easements Granted by the Department over the Last Five Years**  
**282 Easements Over 185.88 Miles**





## Underground Gas Storage Revenue on State Owned Land

Fiscal Year	Acres Under Lease	Volume (1)	State Income
1994	11,574	n/a	\$23,898
1995	11,574	n/a	74,983
1996	11,574	n/a	27,189
1997	11,574	n/a	29,146
1998	10,931	n/a	29,399
1999	11,086	n/a	33,762
2000	26,690	n/a	76,837
2001	26,690	n/a	56,136
2002	27,783	n/a	38,630
2003	29,376	n/a	85,577
2004	31,132	n/a	45,451
2005	31,412	n/a	73,469
2006	31,331	n/a	62,963
2007	32,053	n/a	141,227
2008	32,610	n/a	112,784
2009	32,490	n/a	85,745
2010	38,946	n/a	445,849
2011	39,105	n/a	153,958
2012	39,105	n/a	137,076
			<u>\$1,734,079</u>

(1) Volume is not applicable for gas storage.

Any liquid volume produced would be included in the oil and gas program.

(2) Information prior to 1994 is not available.

(3) Numbers are subject to change due to such actions as refunds or prior period adjustments.

Prepared by DNR, MMS -11/30/2012

Oil and Gas Production and Revenue on State Owned Land

Year	Acreage under Lease for Oil & Gas Production	Oil/Condensate State/Royalty Volume	Gas State/Royalty Volume	State Income
1927-1971	284,651	45,879,062	35,342,221	\$32,016,742
1972-1976	1,563,465	21,324,223	91,132,019	56,000,186
1977	1,643,488	8,980,542	33,329,183	14,878,601
1978	1,573,088	7,936,277	41,310,258	19,392,210
1979	1,666,320	9,228,560	37,898,681	26,785,584
1980-Sept 1980 (1)	1,584,850	1,185,380	29,286,521	25,503,206
1981 (2)	1,707,986	8,299,847	39,188,686	78,408,108
1982	1,888,286	8,450,258	32,296,848	57,032,991
1983	1,841,761	8,901,078	18,298,733	50,584,848
1984	1,693,189	8,488,415	39,343,217	58,740,253
1985	1,581,829	7,961,858	44,968,850	60,297,480
1986	1,766,590	7,924,595	38,531,744	50,484,356
1987	1,831,955	7,105,310	40,403,899	44,177,481
1988	1,900,878	6,782,126	44,775,979	42,211,173
1989	1,828,804	6,014,415	41,218,549	38,251,562
1990	1,572,728	5,498,666	46,801,835	39,429,634
1991	1,336,168	6,380,032	48,273,020	38,275,529
1992	1,064,169	5,788,935	80,887,124	37,521,438
1993	816,535	4,137,420	91,525,221	37,245,208
1994	776,523	3,521,229	94,506,197	36,350,238
1995	804,640	3,052,201	102,208,452	34,852,877
1996	770,182	2,929,197	115,137,821	38,083,736
1997	749,828	2,782,737	130,105,738	38,414,066
1998	762,273	2,799,802	101,997,443	38,749,451
1999	645,529	2,893,805	97,376,280	30,113,093
2000 (3)	612,756	269,629	16,149,087	38,405,769
2001	630,024	261,166	15,168,152	59,086,984
2002	621,298	267,290	14,562,742	36,130,758
2003	644,864	238,570	12,530,174	52,784,360
2004	641,656	251,588	12,841,542	54,601,952
2005 (4)	785,114	257,082	10,995,406	66,193,191
2006 (4)	773,886	222,860	10,652,892	59,073,144
2007 (4)	804,695	233,617	9,041,528	47,426,428
2008 (4)	977,729	266,647	8,808,034	100,035,049
2009	1,157,316	214,679	8,329,378	61,271,723
2010	1,148,601	189,259	7,454,550	224,043,292
2011	1,407,081	178,907	7,452,135	55,088,218
2012	1,486,905	181,354	6,528,366	42,730,097
Totals		207,278,618	1,656,658,505	\$1,920,671,016

(1) The 1980 period is only for nine months due to change from calendar year to fiscal year reporting.

(2) Beginning in 1981, periods shown reflect a September 30 fiscal year.

(3) Beginning in 2000, the volume reported reflects the State Decimal Interest portion of the product produced.

(4) FY 2005 - 2008 royalties were impacted by the Section 29 contract between Motor City Four, DTMB and DNR where a portion of the royalties were paid to Motor City Four.

(5) Numbers reported are subject to change due to such actions as refunds or prior period adjustments.

# Metallic Revenue on State Owned Land

Fiscal Year	Acres Under Lease	Volume (1)	State Income (2)
1983	91,818	-	\$632,911
1984	11,552	-	318,776
1985	61,879	-	247,738
1986	41,958	-	130,872
1987	20,837	-	85,960
1988	9,437	-	35,534
1989	13,371	-	78,724
1990	16,277	-	71,560
1991	21,645	-	100,352
1992	23,854	-	79,191
1993	44,518	-	77,301
1994	17,348	-	66,384
1995	12,640	-	57,930
1996	11,922	-	31,980
1997	16,070	-	71,270
1998	16,384	-	26,176
1999	5,496	-	26,967
2000	6,707	-	44,563
2001	24,888	-	127,083
2002	23,887	-	126,200
2003	24,511	-	108,267
2004	33,843	-	207,063
2005	27,650	-	172,633
2006	26,359	-	195,827
2007	53,664	-	396,901
2008	45,240	-	269,572
2009	29,310	-	267,437
2010	31,971	-	315,129
2011	27,212	-	367,513
2012	26,572	-	329,147
			<u>\$5,066,960</u>

## Notes:

- (1) No active production occurred during this period.
- (2) Beginning in 2002, total income includes minimum royalty payments.
- (3) Information prior to 1983 not available.
- (4) Numbers reported are subject to change due to such actions as refunds or prior period adjustments.

# Nonmetallic Revenue on State Owned Land

Fiscal Year	Acreage under Lease	Volume (1,2)	State Income
1983	4,219	-	\$83,545
1984	4,219	-	24,353
1985	4,219	-	24,473
1986	4,219	-	26,327
1987	4,266	-	39,587
1988	4,344	-	37,090
1989	4,344	-	81,978
1990	4,344	-	80,387
1991	4,344	-	103,947
1992	4,344	-	257,306
1993	157	-	262,035
1994	157	-	294,745
1995	197	-	354,639
1996	293	-	223,805
1997	293	-	287,099
1998	299	-	246,191
1999	638	-	605,591
2000	666	-	997,203
2001	710	-	1,142,862
2002	1,201	-	1,335,754
2003	2,032	-	959,626
2004	1,858	-	659,580
2005	2,466	-	424,846
2006	2,934	-	997,337
2007	3,537	-	470,520
2008	3,688	-	720,192
2009	3,666	-	779,431
2010	35,028	-	450,417
2011	35,308	-	442,087
2012	35,085	-	562,840
			<u>\$12,975,793</u>

- (1) Nonmetallic products vary greatly from salt to sand to boulders. Some products are sold by weight (tons) and others by volume (cubic yards), which would skew any volume reporting.
- (2) Total income includes both minimum royalty and production royalty which may also skew volumes reported.
- (3) Information prior to 1983 not available.
- (4) Numbers are subject to change due to such actions as refunds or prior period adjustments.

## DNR Fisheries Creel Census Data- Rivers

[illegible]

## DNR Fisheries- Creel Census Data- Lakes

Summer only						
Waterbody	County	Year	Angler hrs	Angler days	Acres	Angler Days/ Acre
AuTrain Lake	Alger	2007	6,562	1,221	830	1.47108434
Belleville Lake	Wayne	2005	70,284	21,901	1,270	17.2448819
Black Lake	Cheboygan	2005	44,298	16,535	10,131	1.63211924
Bond Falls Flowage	Ontonagon	2003	20,991	6,679	2,100	3.18047619
Campau Lake	Kent	2005	31,652	9,284	125	74.272
Clear Lake	Kent	2003	1,396	663	8	82.875
Clear Lake	St. Joseph	2009	17,901	7,885	275	28.6727273
Corey Lake	St. Joseph	2008	27,388	7,375	630	11.7063492
Crockery Lake	Ottawa	2003	1,664	711	108	6.58333333
Croton Pond	Newaygo	2007	50,494	13,133	1,380	9.51666667
Fisher Lake	Leelanau	2008	1,066	296	57	5.19298246
Fletcher Floodwater	Alpena	2005	140,331	33,861	8,970	3.77491639
Ford Lake	Washtenaw	2006	28,126	9,008	975	9.23897436
Gull Lake	Kalamazoo	2002	5,910	1,641	2,030	0.80837438
Gun Lake	Allegan	2006	44,189	13,495	2,680	5.03544776
Half Moon Lake	Muskegon	2003	6,100	2,393	58	41.2586207
Hardy Impoundment	Newaygo	2006	97,100	23,111	2,845	8.12337434
Hubbard Lake	Alcona	2007	34,753	9,815	8,850	1.10903955
Lac La Belle	Keweenaw	2009	925	282	1,146	0.2460733
Lake Bellaire	Antrim	2009	14,391	5,211	1,775	2.93577465
Lake Charlevoix	Charlevoix	2006	50,536	18,173	17,260	1.05289687
Lake Fanny Hooe	Keweenaw	2009	925	282	227	1.24229075
Lake Medora	Keweenaw	2009	925	282	695	0.4057554
Lake Michigamme	Marquette	2006	25,574	8,719	4,360	1.99977064
Lime Lake	Kent	2003	7,870	3,291	36	91.4166667
Long Lake	Grand Traverse	2007	33,255	8,333	2,860	2.91363636
Long Lake	St. Joseph	2009	13,647	6,138	211	29.0900474
Maceday Lake	Oakland	2005	12,939	4,415	419	10.5369928
Manistique Lakes	Mackinac	2003	64,933	22,590	10,000	2.259
Mickey Lake	Grand Traverse	2007	3,909	1,564	59	26.5084746
Murray Lake	Kent	2005	31,652	9,284	320	29.0125
Muskallunge Lake	Luce	2002	20,985	8,934	785	11.3808917
Nawaka Lake	Alger	2008	6,287	1,643	370	4.44054054
Paw Paw Lake	Berrien	2005	17,236	7,532	857	8.78879813
Pleasant Lake	St. Joseph	2008	13,869	3,927	262	14.9885496
Portage Lake	Manistee	2011	66,047	17,943	2,110	8.50379147
Shakey Lakes	Menominee	2007	17,539	5,813	284	20.4683099
Thumb Lake	Charlevoix	2007	6,793	2,821	485	5.81649485
Walloon Lake	Charlevoix	2007	22,712	9,101	5,487	1.65864771

Winter only						
Waterbody	County	Year	Angler hrs	Angler day	Acres	Angler Days/ Acre
Big Manistique Lake	Luce	2010	13,052	4,030	10,000	0.403
Black Lake	Alpena	2006	15,563	4,701	10,131	0.464021
Crystal Lake	Benzie	2004	39,604	9,609	9,711	0.989496
Fletcher Pond	Alpena	2006	53,432	12,885	8,970	1.436455
Peavy Pond	Iron	2005	41,473	12,679	12,070	1.050456
Portage Lake	Houghton	2009	5,673	1,486	10,000	0.1486

Summer + Winter						
Waterbody	County	Year	Angler hrs	Angler days	Acres	Angler Days/ Acre
Burt Lake	Cheboygan	2001-02	134,748	38,962	17120	2.275817757
Cisco Thousand Island Chain	Gogebic	2002-03	181,392	42,804	1078	39.70686456
Crooked Lake	Emmet	2001-02	34,469	18,959	2400	7.899583333
East Twin Lake	Montmorency	2008-09	5,041	548	974	0.562628337
Elk Lake	Antrim	2008-09	17,040	4,413	7730	0.570892626
Glen Lake	Leelanau	2008-09	19,811	2,613	4865	0.537101747
Grand Lake	Alpena	2004-05	33,082	9,846	6080	1.619407895
Green Lake	Grand Traverse	2003-04	41,976	13,724	2000	6.862
Hamlin Lake	Mason	2008-09	121,732	31,995	5350	5.980373832
Higgins Lake	Roscommon	2001-02	250,962	60,248	10186	5.914784999
Houghton Lake	Roscommon	2001-02	499,048	199,056	20044	9.930951906
Indian Lake	Schoolcraft	2010-11	20,521	4,811	8000	0.601375
Lake Cadillac	Wexford	2006-07	68,266	24,512	1150	21.31478261
Lake Gogebic	Gogebic	2005-06	117,244	32,019	13380	2.393049327
Lake Leelanau	Leelanau	2002-03	110,118	37,093	8320	4.458293269
Lake Mitchell	Wexford	2006-07	49,301	13,028	2580	5.049612403
Long Lake	Alpena	2004-05	34,950	20,447	5652	3.617657466
Manistique Lakes	Luce	2003-04	228,788	89,841	10000	8.9841
Michigamme Reservoir	Iron	2001-02	93,543	25,974	4360	5.95733945
Mullett Lake	Cheboygan	2009-11	142,125	37,878	17360	2.181912442
Muskegon Lake	Muskegon	2002-03	177,819	45,218	4150	10.89590361
Pickereel Lake	Emmet	2001-02	9,369	2,103	1080	1.947222222
Portage-Torch Lake	Houghton	2007-08	42,725	11,867	12659	0.937435816
Skegemog Lake	Antrim	2008-09	36,816	9,409	2560	3.675390625
West Twin Lake	Montmorency	2008-09	4,205	1,169	1327	0.880934439

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	MI CRS Occupied Slip Nights 2002 - 2012									
2										
3										
4	Note: These numbers were compiled using the Occupancy Reports in the End of Year package.									
5	Note: These numbers are compiled in a calendar year format.									
6	Note: - = Facility was not open in that year.									
7	Note: Information for 2012 is current as of 12/5/2012 for all nights through 12/31/2012									
8										
9	<b>Harbor/Marina</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
10	ARCADIA VETERANS MEMORIAL MARINA	3,258	393	425	601	298	354	269	409	150
11	AU GRES HARBOR OF REFUGE	477	196	65	22	75	38	22	17	34
12	CASEVILLE MARINA	4,855	-	-	0	857	773	765	682	417
13	CEDAR RIVER STATE HARBOR	3,005	-	-	-	228	293	489	459	404
14	CHARLEVOIX HARBOR	25,244	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,279	5,113
15	CHEBOYGAN CITY MARINA	430	52	51	74	19	42	52	32	27
16	CHEBOYGAN COUNTY MARINA	11,387	1,719	1,665	1,460	1,215	1,251	1,056	957	392
17	CITY OF ALPENA MARINA	2,349	-	722	414	146	471	373	173	15
18	COPPER HARBOR	2,462	-	278	270	295	258	267	198	253
19	DETOUR STATE HARBOR MARINA	17,169	1,766	2,213	1,911	1,668	1,320	1,798	1,405	1,441
20	DUNCAN L CLINCH MARINA	20,740	-	-	2,105	2,297	2,285	2,678	2,241	2,200
21	EAST JORDAN CITY MARINA	4,413	-	0	540	610	626	417	414	376
22	EAST TAWAS STATE DOCK	27,122	3,114	3,029	2,830	2,628	2,172	2,537	2,055	2,143
23	ELMWOOD TOWNSHIP MARINA	2,917	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	ERMA HENDERSON MARINA	55	-	-	-	-	-	-	40	2
25	FAYETTE HARBOR	4,412	-	-	343	559	609	534	508	520
26	GEORGE KEMP DOWNTOWN MARINA SAULT ST. MARIE MI	5,039	727	838	624	577	381	470	256	266
27	GRAND HAVEN MARINA	30,129	-	-	3,549	2,913	3,344	3,393	3,355	3,561
28	HAMMOND BAY STATE HARBOR	561	-	-	-	89	113	85	62	51
29	HARBOR BEACH MARINA	735	-	243	272	115	16	39	7	-
30	HARRISVILLE HARBOR OF REFUGE	126	-	-	-	-	24	2	13	4
31	LAKE ST CLAIR METROPARK (METRO BEACH MARINA)	6,077	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32	LEXINGTON STATE DOCK	36,950	4,820	4,612	4,285	3,895	3,168	2,823	2,395	2,772
33	MACKINAC ISLAND STATE HARBOR	55,107	5,568	5,253	5,147	5,484	5,142	5,106	4,946	4,755
34	MACKINAW CITY MARINA	28,128	4,505	3,970	3,808	4,170	3,469	3,685	2,523	642
35	MANISTEE MUNICIPAL MARINA	8,275	-	-	-	-	-	1,803	1,409	1,464
36	MARQUETTE AREA MARINAS	909	-	-	-	235	77	98	185	86
37	MUSKEGON HARTSHORN MARINA	2,089	-	373	313	283	217	209	181	160
38	NEW BUFFALO MUNICIPAL MARINA	14,206	1,413	1,361	1,348	1,423	1,365	1,278	1,284	1,144
39	ONTONAGON VILLAGE MARINA	444	-	-	-	83	105	68	58	39
40	PENTWATER MUNICIPAL MARINA	5,371	-	-	-	-	939	879	893	922
41	PETOSKEY MARINA	20,569	-	-	-	2,843	2,920	2,673	2,159	2,310
42	PORT AUSTIN STATE HARBOR	8,371	1,529	1,216	1,218	994	724	580	508	527
43	PORT HURON RIVER STREET MARINA	9,021	896	1,550	1,419	1,327	966	969	660	396
44	PORT HURON WATER STREET MARINA	3,821	-	-	632	1,341	666	1,182	-	-
45	PORT SANILAC HARBOR	1,957	196	404	266	282	206	172	48	81
46	PRESQUE ISLE STATE HARBOR	18,346	812	3,148	2,680	2,216	1,683	1,732	1,232	1,281
47	ROGERS CITY MARINA	7,837	-	-	1,284	1,249	1,009	872	703	671
48	SOUTH HAVEN MUNICIPAL MARINA	3,116	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
49	ST. CLAIR BOAT HARBOR	26,066	2,034	2,592	2,456	2,189	2,005	2,571	2,256	2,491
50	ST. IGNACE MUNICIPAL MARINA	20,023	788	2,211	2,727	2,964	2,268	2,595	1,701	1,322
51	STRAITS STATE HARBOR MACKINAW CITY	6,218	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	599
52	WEST BASIN MARINA	347	-	-	-	-	56	56	38	24
53	WHITE LAKE MUNICIPAL MARINA	7,117	787	929	986	920	773	619	486	549
54	WILLIAM G. MILLIKEN HARBOR	5,580	-	-	427	495	598	582	664	712
55	<b>State Total:</b>	<b>457,250</b>	<b>31,315</b>	<b>37,148</b>	<b>43,584</b>	<b>46,487</b>	<b>42,128</b>	<b>45,216</b>	<b>41,227</b>	<b>39,604</b>





MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
PARKS AND RECREATION BUREAU  
PARK ATTENDANCE TOTALS BY YEAR - ALL DISTRICTS  
Friday, January 04, 2013 3:52:08 PM

YEAR	CAMPS	CAMPERS	DAY USE	TURNED AWAY CAMP	TURNED AWAY DAY USE	ANNUAL PERMITS	DAILY PERMITS	SENIOR PERMITS	ANNUAL NON-RES	DAILY NON-RES	COMM VEHICLE	ORV	CABIN PERMITS	CABIN NIGHTS	MINI CABIN PERMITS	MINI CABIN NIGHTS	SHELTER PERMITS	APPEAR. TICKETS	BRIDGE CARD PERMITS	TOWED VEHICLE PERMITS
1994	1051962	5038054	18412965	27897	24191	24878	71622	4357	2178		64	108	5287	11965	1872	3875	1863	2166		
1995	1080772	5101869	19190088	27357	27748	276190	983584	50704	65914		340	13078	5346	12162	1646	4171	1867	2214		
1996	1059570	4876133	18189358	29746	23855	263945	919790	49620	56467		370	10223	5391	12179	1287	4804	1929	1822		
1997	1049415	4721695	18660605	19839	16390	275551	882902	49176	55705		370	13773	5271	11767	1405	5324	2015	1722		
1998	1143392	5184714	21147013	22066	20523	300053	963528	51521	67018		329	12107	5152	11576	1405	5957	1940	2179		
1999	1185507	5299644	22518259	26938	23023	297573	946571	50114	61908		271	14658	4669	11053	1280	6247	1887	1956		
2000	1173890	5104021	20940707	19803	9764	280848	845528	48998	58809		360	14995	4253	10150	1098	6625	2042	1923		
2001	1146956	5112462	20454686	21235	15240	288429	889644	50888	57905		321	16321	5885	9931	993	6381	1907	2239		
2002	1142539	4865812	18340049	18254	16933	295548	864777	51688	61986		344	14904	4417	9648	1227	7198	1769	2477		
2003	1156130	5300372	18159736	11239	10551	287463	844873	55595	55026	183	390	14800	3951	9706	919	6775	1848	2784	4	5
2004	1040368	4920112	16861014	6214	3387	253701	608512	54139	15339	140000	420	6256	1011	9287	194	7484	1850	2099	415	1590
2005	1005437	4684201	18210884	33115	6948	261477	611485	56174	23517	150651	956	1656	228	8597	0	6461	1615	2106	1502	2481
2006	956030	4511760	17822259	7134	7577	259016	573735	56842	23694	132250	349	1211	131	9333	0	6736	1811	2288	1832	2329
2007	927399	4538740	17340016	2804	8488	252405	616355	60688	25440	155602	477	1231	295	8128	3	6571	1369	130	2262	3854
2008	890607	4409109	16796994	16509	12265	255519	607508	61019	26408	165733	439	17277	83	8498	0	6920	1471	19	2428	4444
2009	894410	4202217	16888198	18157	10807	269554	613468	68457	29269	183217	464	18448	52	9272	0	7189	1324	9	3771	14891
2010	848623	4039529	17256643	3934	13677	280090	653600	72052	30782	202257	366	5821	70	8416	0	6795	1302	15	5477	6604
2011	899311	4396273	20104142	8574	11771	119609	156847	1468	30852	186635	0	0	0	10012	200	6603	1984	20	3171	802

Forest, Mineral and Fire Management  
State Forest Campground - Statistical Summary

Total Campers

Monthly Totals

Fiscal Year	Rate Type	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	FY Totals
1999	Regular	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	116	0	0	0	116
1999	Senior	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	0	22
2000	Regular	961	453	634	0	0	0	0	3161	6792	22437	34481	12200	81119
2000	Senior	281	100	161	0	0	0	0	446	1095	2136	3266	1766	9251
2001	Cabin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	88	86	93	35	301
2001	Group	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
2001	Regular	2636	1477	184	783	115	0	515	9570	18106	35221	31004	13047	112658
2001	Senior	509	250	40	52	24	0	76	876	1986	2769	3017	1741	11340
2002	Cabin	65	2	116	83	108	197	95	100	93	211	74	120	1264
2002	Group	2041	617	0	0	0	0	0	89	1462	3082	1026	338	8655
2002	Regular	1752	2659	641	188	204	169	869	10171	16878	46370	133356	18773	232030
2002	Senior	322	520	128	17	29	16	138	1256	2221	4888	3845	3032	16412
2003	Cabin	81	89	64	107	108	118	75	71	189	181	161	79	1313
2003	Group	1228	959	22	0	0	0	0	63	1699	2753	808	544	8076
2003	Regular	2335	1248	1085	141	0	244	212	9903	19431	41486	38077	20752	134914
2003	Senior	583	183	207	22	0	16	112	1196	2443	4893	4080	3248	16983
2004	Cabin	69	85	52	136	124	142	120	67	171	164	76	127	1333
2004	Group	270	18	1966	36	0	0	0	139	685	3208	1209	676	8207
2004	Regular	2479	732	1085	9	47	0	876	3843	22957	39681	36553	18968	127230
2004	Senior	468	74	199	3	8	0	197	634	2535	4400	4083	3007	15608
2005	Cabin	88	36	79	135	107	119	65	195	109	113	149	121	1316
2005	Group	782	945	252	0	0	0	0	210	1083	3074	1421	1062	8829
2005	Regular	3307	1458	465	140	0	0	117	8078	21798	40507	39573	16081	131524
2005	Senior	842	317	100	12	0	0	90	880	2677	4454	4246	2391	16009
2006	Cabin	76	48	105	118	111	91	106	0	0	0	0	0	655
2006	Group	1377	893	1	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2287
2006	Regular	2345	1900	375	469	6	0	70	0	0	0	0	0	5165

Report Date: 05/02/2006